The Middlebury Campus

www.middleburycampus.com

VOL. 102 NO. 22 | THURSDAY, APRIL 15, 2004 | SINCE 1905

SPRING IS IN THE AIR

Vlad Lodoaba

Taking advantage of warm April temperatures, a group of students gathered for a colorful celebration of the Indian Holi Day. The festivities included throwing powdered paint and various outdoor activities.

ZOO homeless for a year

By Thomas Drescher
News Editor

President John McCardell recently approved the Community Council's recommendation that the social house Zeta Theta Phi (ZOO) be granted continuing status with a number of severe stipulations.

According to a document released by Community Council detailing its recommendation, ZOO will be placed on probation through September 2004, at which point the house will have the opportunity to recruit a pledge class. Additionally, ZOO will be ineligible to obtain a physical house until the fall of 2005. A final stipulation requires the organization to "engage in a deliberate planning process defined by a series of deadlines."

Community Council leadership asserted in the document's summary that "the recommendations...constitute an-

See ZOO, page 3

Degree recipients announced

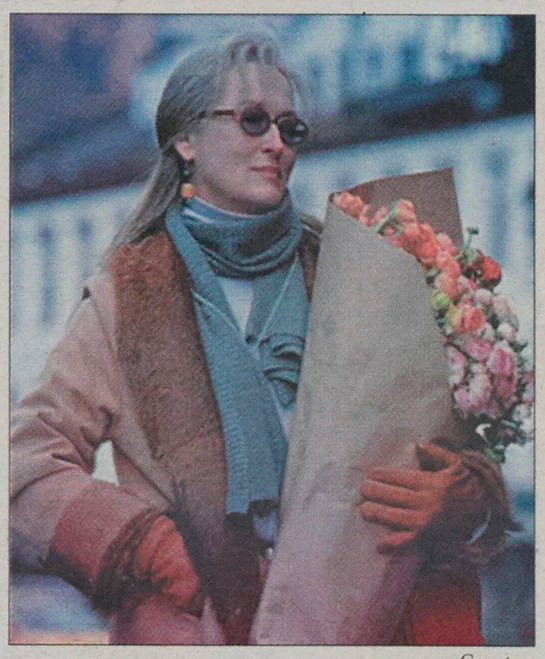
By Caroline Stauffer
News Editor

A number of celebrity names will ring through the main quadrangle behind Voter Hall on College Street as graduation ceremonies commence on May 23.

In addition to commencement speakers Christopher Reeve and Dana Morosini Reeve '84, both of whom will receive honorary Doctors of Human Letters, eight other distinguished individuals have been selected to receive honorary degrees. The honorary degrees committee, comprised of students, faculty and trustees, extended Commencement invitations to the recipients.

Two-time Academy Award winner Meryl

See Streep, page 7



Courtesy

Meryl Streep, pictured here in "The Hours," will be awarded an honorary Doctor of Arts in May.

Changing of the guard

Middlebury 10th in NESCAC to pick executive since 2000

By Chesley Thurber
Associate Editor

In the last four years, nine of the 11 NESCAC colleges have appointed new presidents. In the next couple of weeks, Middlebury College is expected to join that list as the 10th. Despite difficult issues in selecting an executive — balancing community input with candidate confidentiality and weighing the advantages of inside versus outside candidates — the 10 schools' selection processes have been similar in their methods and outcomes.

In every case for which information was publicly available, the process spanned a period of six to nine months, beginning with the selection of a search committee. The committee typically consists of 12 to 20 members, with a majority of trustees and two to four faculty members, one or two students and sometimes a staff representative, administrator or alumni representative. Middlebury's committee, with eight trustees, four faculty and one representative each for students, staff and alumni, parallels this standard.

The need for the search committee arises from the conflicting desires of the College to pursue the highest quality candidates, who often demand anonymity in order to protect their positions at their current institutions, while ensuring a high degree of community participation and input in the search process.

Some members of the Middlebury community have expressed discontent with this situation, arguing that the final candidates must be made public and open to community-wide critique before a decision can be made. Professor of Sociology and Anthropology Ellen Oxfeld said to *The Campus* last week, "Regardless of who would be chosen for this position, it is important that the entire College community understand the nature of the competition among the top candidates. Certainly there must be many strong applicants for this job, and I think the campus community is entitled to see who the top ones are."

While some public institutions have begun to make some finalist candidates public as a result of judicial decision, this practice is rare at private colleges. None of the NESCAC schools that have made presidential decisions in the last four years have introduced candidates before the final recommendation of the search

See NESCAC, page 3

SGA falls short of finish line

SGA ELECTIONS 2004

By Thomas Drescher
News Editor

When Student Government Association (SGA) President Sam Rodriguez '04 took office last fall, he had big plans. Rodriguez was elected as an SGA outsider — a populist candidate with fresh, exciting and ambitious ideas. The Tennessee native hoped to alleviate political apathy among students and generate interest in relevant issues, but faced with limited funds and authority, Rodriguez and the rest of the SGA struggled through a largely unproductive fall semester. However, while it may have taken a while for Rodriguez to acclimate himself to the world of the SGA, there is no doubt that his administration has been more productive in the second half of the academic year. Rodriguez and company certainly made some noise this spring, but in terms of combating apathy and galvanizing student interest, their efforts may have been too little, too late.

While many students wonder what happened to the proposed health food cafeteria and recreational sports closets, SGA Press Secretary Andrew Carnabuci '06 is quick to point out that "despite popular opinion," his organization accomplished several important things this year. One of the SGA's most recent accomplishments is the introduction of MidDRS, a dish recovery system that, if effective, will compel students to return plates, cups and silverware to the dining halls. Rodriguez credits SGA Environmental Affairs Chair Ian Ausprey '04 and Asher Burns-Burg '05 with the research and implementation of the system.

In addition to MidDRS, the SGA proposed and/or implemented a number of other initiatives. Successful enterprises include TIPS training reform, adjustments in the sexual assault policy and the development of free and anonymous HIV testing. According to Rodriguez, the SGA also lobbied to keep Midd Xpress open until 2 a.m. and make credit cards a valid means of payment at The Grille.

Additionally, the SGA announced recently that it has collaborated with the *USA Today* Collegiate Readership Program to offer a variety of national and international publications to students free of charge at a number of locations on campus.

See SGA, page 5

MIDDBRIEFS

BY TAYLOR JOHNSTON AND CAROLINE STAUFFER

Prospective students inundate campus

Over 130 admitted students descended on Middlebury College on Monday for the first of two Preview Days. A group of student volunteers hosted prospective members of the Class of 2008.

"We had an enthusiastic day," said Associate Director of Admissions Kathy Lindsey. "Our count was 316 visitors — 138 [of whom were] accepted students."

According to Lindsey, this unofficial number was 24 fewer students than last year's first Preview Day – a figure that possibly reflects this year's smaller accepted class. However, the Admissions Office anticipates a larger group next Monday, April 19. "Families will have had a longer time period to plan a trip, and no one will have to travel on Easter Sunday and Passover as they did this week," explained Lindsey.

Admissions depends largely on students to make the events a success. "Thanks to all the terrific Middlebury students who helped us by entertaining in McCullough Sunday night, hosting, tour guiding, doing the Activity Fair at lunch and sitting on panels," she said. "They're the best advertisement we've got!"

New newspaper initiative bursts Middlebury bubble

Students may have noticed a plethora of newspapers available in dining halls, dormitories and the Grille this week. The increased availability of news is the result of a Student Government Association (SGA) initiative piloted by Student Co-Chair of Community Council Erin Sullivan '04.

Sullivan has been in contact with a salesman from *USA Today* regarding the *USA Today* Collegiate Readership Program, which delivers newspapers to more than 250 campuses five days a week around the country. Bates, Bowdoin and Colby are among the newest participating institutions. The Collegiate Readership Program provides equipment, delivers the papers and recycles leftover issues.

The program, which brings newspapers including *USA Today*, *The New York Times*, *The Financial Times-London* and *The Burlington Free Press* to campus, "encourages students who otherwise might not read the news by making newspapers physically available," said Sullivan. Sullivan noted the previous lack of newspapers on campus, pointing out that only 50 students currently subscribe to the *New York Times*.

Middlebury has currently only committed to a month-long free trial period. If the program is to continue, "long-term funding needs to enter into the picture," according to Sullivan. Although the program is available on many distribution levels, it would cost the College $15,000 a year to have 300 papers delivered on weekdays.

Whether or not the program continues and how it is funded will ultimately be up to next year's SGA, but Sullivan has suggested adding $5 to $7 to the student activity fee to pay for it. She further recommended that a poll take place to determine the amount of student interest.

CORRECTIONS

The Middlebury Campus misidentified the winner of the 100m sprint in "Panthers explode during triumphant home meet" (p.28) by saying Kirsten Lundgren '06.5 won when in fact it was Kirsten Nagel '06.

Also, in the photo story "Nobel or Bust" (p. 5) *The Campus* misidentified the physics lecturer and Nobel Prize winner by saying the man pictured was Ken Davis '90 when in fact it was Wolfgang Ketterle of M.I.T.

The Campus regrets these errors.

'Pro-lifers' denied club status

By Caroline Stauffer
News Editor

On March 9, a group of students submitted a proposal to the Constitution Committee hoping to form a new student organization entitled "Students For Life." They were called to present to the Committee on April 6, but were denied in a "close vote." After further discussion, the Committee voted not to overturn the vote, but is allowing the club to re-submit its constitution — something the club plans on doing immediately after next Monday's "Symposium on Performing Abortions and the U.S. Constitution."

The proposed constitution stated the club's purpose, "To expose students to issues concerning the sanctity of human life, to provide a respectful environment for discussion of said issues, to provide support and information to people about alternatives to abortion and to give students a chance to participate in educational and promotional activities both on and off campus."

"Nothing in the constitution is objectionable or hostile," intended Students for Life member Ashley Timidaiski '07 claimed.

Adam Dixon '04 reported on the Constitution Committee's decision. The Committee objected to some of the group's proposed activities, specifically setting up a counseling center through Parton Health Center — a neutral organization — and to pamphleting — which would violate the College's policy. Dixon claimed he would not let a "pro-life" organization set up a counseling center either, and suggested that instead of pamphleting the club set up information tables. Dixon also explained that the group had not submitted the required list of proposed activities with its constitution.

Intended Students for Life president Maria Dickinson '07 maintained that the group had no intentions of handing out pamphlets to people individually. "The only mention we made of pamphlets were the informational materials we hope to purchase and stock at the health center — some of these are from CareNet, and provide very non-partisan, non-biased information and resources," she said. "In addition, we made sure to consult a member of the health center staff with our intention, and we were met with approval and welcome."

"Concerning the counseling, we made absolutely clear that we would follow all of the Counseling Center's guidelines in terms of providing — or not providing — student counselors for women — pregnant, post-abortion or post-birth — on campus," said Dickinson. The group had not, however, spoken with the Counseling Center yet, according to Dickinson, and intended counseling to take place jointly with CareNet, a pregnancy center in town. "They were very concerned with the legality of having student counselors — a very important point, and one I admit we overlooked. But once we became aware of this concern at the review session, we made sure to better state our goal of simply providing an optional student support group with some formal training to the Middlebury community."

The organization has no intention of withdrawing, and is sponsoring a symposium and discussion Monday evening with the Pre-Law Club to discuss whether *Roe vs. Wade* is constitutional, if it could be overturned and what the implications of that would be. The club plans to resubmit its constitution following the event.

"We wanted to formed the club because there is no outlet for 'pro-life' students on campus, and it could not be done through the College Republicans or Christian Fellowship because not all Republicans nor all Christians are pro-life and vice versa," Timidaiski said.

In response to whether she believed the decision of the Committee was discriminatory, Dickinson replied, "It is — whether consciously or unconsciously — quite possible, especially owing to the sensitivity and importance of the issues our proposed group would handle."

"The Constitution Committee seemed to be afraid that we would be abrasive and isolate people — we had no such intention," Timidaiski continued.

Dickinson, however, remains optimistic about the organization's chances. "I am aware that there are members of the Constitution Committee who would identify themselves as pro-choice, but their stated reasons for not approving Students for Life seem to me very minor and simply a matter of miscommunication, easily remedied," she said.

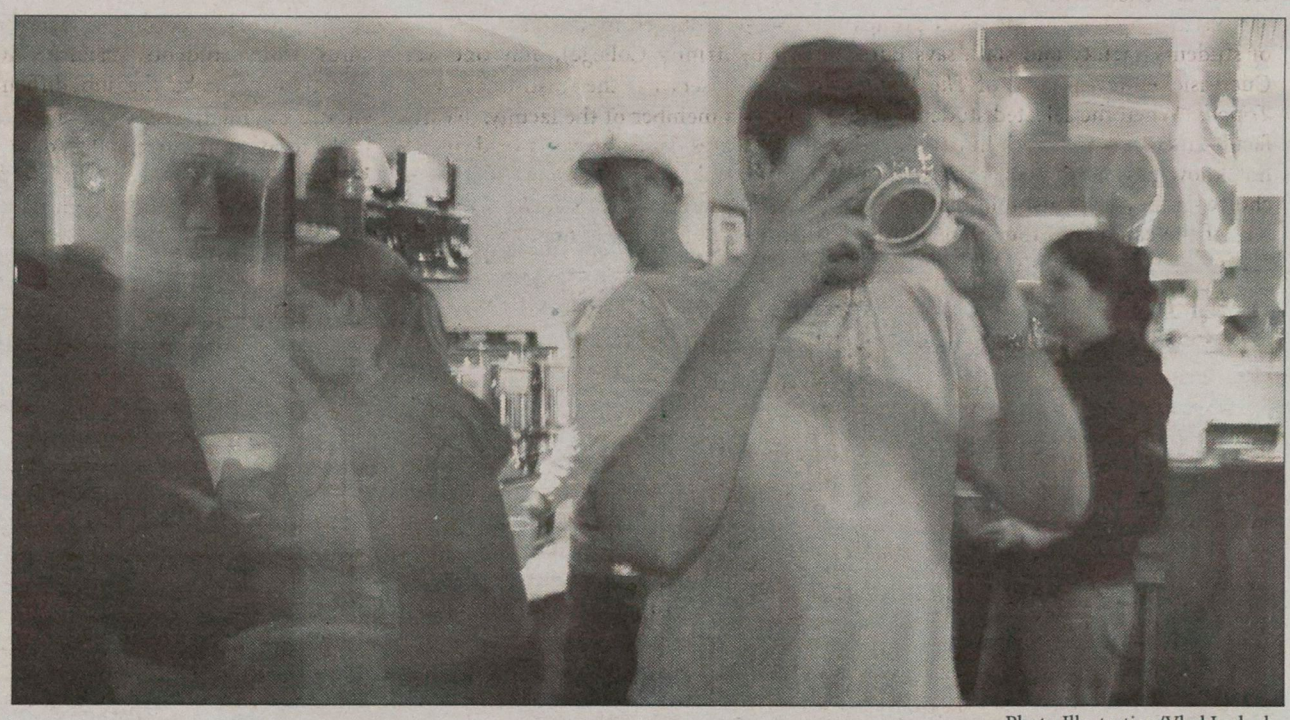


Photo Illustration/Vlad Lodoaba

SGA dishes up a solution

By Chesley Thurber
Associate Editor

Last week marked the introduction of the Student Government Association (SGA) sponsored Middlebury Dish Recovery System (MiddDRS). The system places green bins in student residences for removed dining hall dishware that is then collected and returned to the dining halls by residential life staff and dining services staff.

MiddDRS arrived at a new low in dishware loss from Ross Commons dining hall as an email to all students from Ross Dining Unit Manager Brad Koehler and Director of Dining Services Matthew Biette announced that there were absolutely no plastic beverage cups left in that dining hall, indicating a loss of 1,050 cups since February. Proctor Dining Hall reported similar, but not as extreme, lows.

Possibly as a result of the e-mail, or due to the number of students who were forced to consume beverages from soup bowls Friday evening, many dishware pieces were returned to the dining halls and the green bins quickly filled to capacity over the weekend. SGA Director of Environmental Affairs and chief engineer of the program Ian Ausprey '04 expressed satisfaction in the immediate student use of the bins. "I've been very happy with the amount of dishware returned," said Ausprey.

But the transportation of the dishware from the bins back to the dining halls has run less smoothly, leaving overflowing bins with decaying food scraps in student residence halls for several days at a time. Ausprey assured that he was currently working with Dining Services to iron out the logistical difficulties of the first week. "It is going to be essential to have quick turnover of the bins," he commented.

While the system offers a potential solution to the dishware loss problem, the message it sends is problematic to both Ausprey and Biette. Biette described the program as a "double-edged sword" in that it encourages students to remove dishware and simply dispose of it by dropping it uncleaned in the bins.

But for an exasperated Dining Services staff, the program comes as a necessary, if not ideal, step. Biette refuses to buy new glasses, stating that "throwing good money after bad just doesn't make sense." He continued, "We're stewards of the student's tuition." He is unwilling to spend more of that money on dishware that is being misused.

The College Handbook allows for a penal alternative, authorizing a $35 fine for those caught removing dishware. But Biette wishes not to turn to these measures. "That's not the way it really should be. Should we be a police state or should we be teaching responsibility?" Biette noted that he has received numerous other suggestions from students on how to solve the problem such as each student must bring back a piece of dishware in order to be allowed into the dining hall. Biette also encouraged students to use Nalgene bottles or "CUPPS" mugs to take a quick drink from the dining hall along with them.

NESCAC schools tend to favor outside candidates

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

committee.

Trinity College, Bates College and Hamilton College have, however, invited a candidate to visit the campus and talk to members of the community outside of the search committee following the the committee's recommendation but before the final decision by the board of trustees.

Of the 10 presidents named by NESCAC colleges in the last 10 years (two by Trinity College), only one was currently serving the institution and none as a member of the faculty.

NEWS ANALYSIS

According to a Bates College press release, their search committee named former provost of Haverford College Elaine Tuttle Hansen the finalist candidate in Dec. 2001. Later the same week Hansen visited the College and upon a positive reception was unanimously approved by the trustees in January 2002.

Hamilton's committee publicly introduced their preferred candidate, Joan Hinde Stewart, as well. According to Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Hamilton College Stuart L. Scott, the committee had selected a "backup" as well, but that "it would have taken a really extreme negative reaction" from the community for them to rescind their strong endorsement. Fortunately, commented Scott, Stewart's engaging personality made her well received by the Hamilton community.

At Trinity, this process was more secretive. Their nominee, James Jones, was invited to speak with small groups of students, faculty and staff, says Edna Guerrasio, editor-in-chief of *The Trinity Tripod*. "When the selected students and faculty members met with him, they did not know he was the committee's final choice — they were just told that he was one of the candidates they were considering. The students that were chosen ranged from student leaders, RAs and athletes to average students from an array of different majors. The idea was to form groups that represented the student body as a whole."

Trustee and Chair of the Presidential Search Committee Rick Fritz '68 indicated to *The Campus* last week that such an introduction would not take place at Middlebury.

Issues of confidentiality have been particularly contentious at Middlebury given the known existence of an internal candidate, Executive Vice President and Provost Ron Liebowitz. The lack of transparency in the process caused some members of the faculty to express to *The Campus* last week a fear that the nominee had already been decided. Other faculty members submitted a petition to the search committee expressly requesting that the committee seek an outside candidate.

But of the 10 presidents named by NESCAC colleges in the last 10 years (two by Trinity College), only one was currently serving the institution and none as a member of the faculty. Nearly all were presidents, provosts or deans at other liberal arts institutions.

At Hamilton, Scott told *The Campus*, there was only one potential presidential candidate from inside the administration, Vice-President for Academic Affairs and Dean of the Faculty David Paris. Paris declined candidacy in order to participate in the decision process on the search committee.

This precedent does not bode well for Middlebury's Liebowitz. But according to Scott, Liebowitz may be a special case. "From the point of view of an outsider, Liebowitz is an exceptional guy," said Scott. While he stated that Stewart had been his favorite candidate early on, Scott added that Hamilton's search committee had been highly interested in Liebowitz and that he could have been a finalist for their institution's presidency. "He was clearly one of the two or three most attractive candidates." According to Scott, Liebowitz declined candidacy, citing his loyalty to Middlebury.

Like executive positions in the corporate sphere, the lifespan of a college president appears to be shortening as exhibited by the flurry of NESCAC appointments. According to Scott, pressures from students, faculty, alumni and trustees make the job difficult to endure for many years. As the College looks to appoint current President John McCardell's successor, 13-year tenures such as his are becoming even more the exception.

BATES

Timeframe: *March 2001 - Jan. 2002*

President Named:
Elaine Tuttle Hansen

Began Presidency: *July 1, 2002*

Previous Title and Institution:
Provost, Haverford College

Search Committee:
8 trustees
4 faculty
2 students
1 alum
1 administrator

Introduction of Finalist:
Hansen publicly visited Bates College on Dec. 7, after being endorsed by the search committee but before appointment by the board of trustees.

Source:
Bates College Public Affairs Website

HAMILTON

Timeframe: *Oct. 2002 - May 2003*

President Named:
Joan Hinde Stewart

Began Presidency: *July 1, 2003*

Previous Title and Institution:
Dean, College of Liberal Arts, University of South Carolina

Search Committee:
8 trustees
2 faculty
1 student
1 administrator

Introduction of Finalist:
In late April, Stewart was publicly introduced to community as preferred candidate by search committee. Named president after positive reception.

Sources:
Hamilton Public Affairs Website
Chair, Board of Trustees, Stuart Scott

TRINITY

Timeframe: *Aug. 2003 - Feb. 2004*

President Named:
James F. Jones

Began Presidency: *July 1, 2002*

Previous Title and Institution:
President, Kalamazoo College

Search Committee:
7 trustees
5 faculty
2 students

Introduction of Finalist:
Jones privately met with selected focus groups of students and faculty. He was introduced only as a 'finalist.'

Source:
Trinity Public Affairs Website
Edna Guerrasio, The Trinity Tripod

ZOO members to decide house fate

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

other, perhaps final, opportunity for ZOO to reinvent itself," adding that "the Council also believes ZOO is capable of meeting these challenges and — as other embattled houses have in the past — creating a new future for its organization."

The subcommittee report included in the document mentioned "several unfortunate situations in which individual members behaved in ways that compromised the house" and "an incident involving the prominent violation of the College's alcohol policy," as well as ongoing occupancy and dorm damage issues, as evidence to support its recommendation.

According to ZOO member Sarah Berkowitz '05, house leadership is considering discontinuing the house voluntarily in light of the weighty stipulations imposed by the Council and a general lack of interest among members. Berkowitz said the 15 core members would meet within the next two weeks to discuss the situation and reach a decision.

"In order to reinvigorate the organization and recruit a pledge class we will need a significant number of committed members," explained Berkowitz. "Considering this and the Council's stipulations, reviving ZOO might not be possible."

OVERSEAS BRIEFING

BY MEGAN O'KEEFE

Like all trends, the latest Parisian craze became evident slowly at first. But when American tourists started fighting with the Japanese not only in front of Leonardo DaVinci's "Mona Lisa," but across from his "Madonna of the Rocks," too, it became apparent that something was brewing. By the time multiple Midwesterners had thrown themselves down on the floor across from the painting and played dead while their friends snapped pictures, American ex-pats and exchange students recognized, with horror, the explanation behind this new breed of tourist: Dan Brown's "The DaVinci Code."

Brown's sensational best-selling thriller — a modern day hunt for the holy grail set in Paris — has spawned an entire bookcase of copycat novels and non-fiction reading guides with titles like "Breaking the DaVinci Code: Answers to the Questions Everyone's Asking" and "The DaVinci Decoded: The Truth Behind the *New York Times #1* Bestseller." Random House, which published the novel, has further fueled the craze with an online Web Quest where fans of the novel can "solve riddles, crack the code and unveil a lost DaVinci Secret." While the site promises "the most fun you have ever had on the web," the novel's most ardent fans do not seem entirely convinced that the true identities of Jesus Christ and Mary Magdalene can be uncovered with a little help from Google. So they shutdown their computers, descended on Paris and prepared to get serious in their hunt for the Holy Grail.

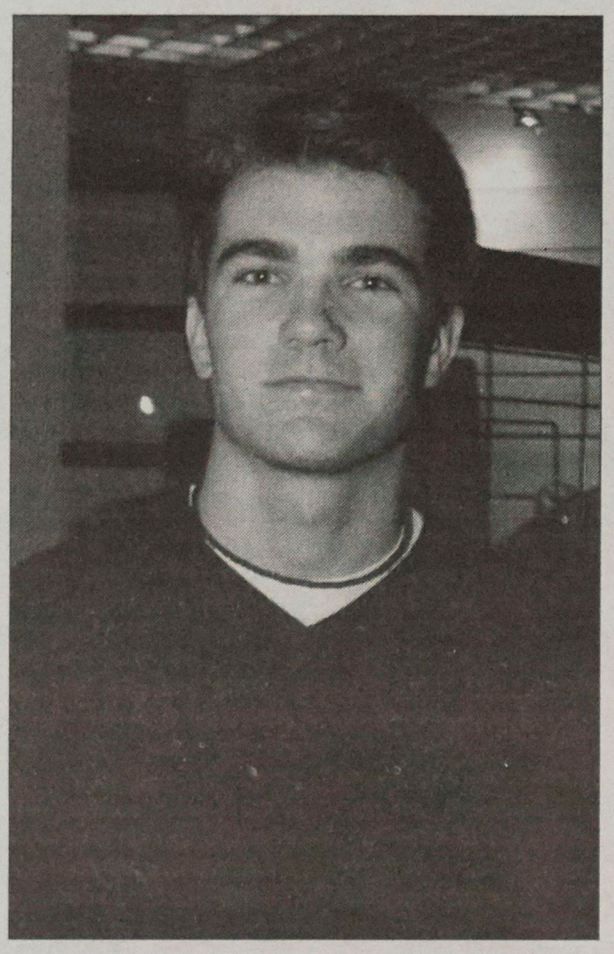
To be fair, there are two types of "DaVinci Code tourists": the casual book tracer and the Indiana Jones wannabe. The first kind is typically a suburban soccer mom who read the "DaVinci Code" under the intellectually piquing guidance her Tuesday night book group. She usually has three exasperated children in tow outside of the entrance to the Louvre where she mysteriously bumps into at least two other moms from down the street, back home who are also squandering their children's spring breaks so they can brag, "You know I went to Paris recently and have seen *all* of the sights in 'The DaVinci Code'." They call shrilly back and forth to each other as they wait to be admitted for a peek at the "Mona Lisa" and, most importantly, "The Madonna of the Rocks:" "Oh, look who is in Paris, too! We are on the DaVinci tour! Have you been to Saint Sulpice yet? See you at the PTA next Friday."

The Indiana Jones-types are not likely to stand around in lines, wasting time by making friendly banter. They are, after all, on a search for the Holy Grail — or at least the truth behind it. Common to these groups of middle-aged men and women are tattered copies of Dan Brown's novel and a complete inability to recognize the difference between fiction and reality. Thankfully they have skipped on Harrison Ford's little tan outfit and whip, but they keep up a pulse-racing atmosphere of adventure by shouting back and forth to each other, "Yeah! We are going on an important mission to discover the truth for ourselves. We will uncover the mystery of Mary Magdalene! Woo!" The eagerness and naiveté are overwhelmingly reminiscent of the games 10 year olds in the woods behind their houses, but somehow the war cries feel a little out of place outside of Chanel's flagship store. When one tourist solemnly points to a small pyramid on the floor of a modern annex to the Louvre and pronounces, "Here we find the sacred feminine," he amazingly seems not to notice that he is standing inside a shopping mall, directly across from the French estimation of William Sonoma. Outside, the action is even more frantic around I.M. Pei's glass pyramid, where tourists with calculators in hand work diligently to verify whether the pyramid is truly composed of 666 panes of glass.

In every church, on every street, in ever corner of the Louvre mentioned by Brown they search for clues and work frantically to solve their mystery before they fly back home at the end of the week. And those Americans who reside in Paris week after week are left behind to ponder the real mystery: "How do these people not realize how ridiculous they look?"

SGA election preview 2004:

TEXT BY BEN SALKOWE AND TAYLOR JOHNSTON | PHOTOS BY VLAD LODOABA



ELECTION 2004 SGA PRESIDENT

CANDIDATE: Jimmy Hickey '05
MAJOR: Political Science
HOMETOWN: Glencoe, Ill.
EXPERIENCE: Junior Class Senator, two-year Academic Judicial Board, Judicial Appeals Board member, Community Council member (J-Term 2003)

"A fundamental part of my campaign…is to use my significant experiential knowledge and understanding of what works and what doesn't work on this campus to tailor the goals and the execution of the SGA to be practical and achievable," said SGA presidential candidate Jimmy Hickey, who has a long resume of SGA experience.

Although Hickey has expressed no apprehension about his association with this year's SGA, he is aware of criticism of the current administration. He believes "inexperience was the reason behind much of the pitfalls that lead to the 'significant criticism' faced by this year's SGA."

Hickey's long-term priority is to give students more of a voice in major campus decisions, in effect, "reestablishing what the SGA can do and what is expected of it," he said.

To achieve this, he plans to "encourage the representatives of the SGA to discover practical initiatives and…actualize those initiatives in a manner and a timeframe that fellow students would expect."

Hickey sees social life issues as a priority and cites them as a source of disappointment in the commons system. He also wants to make it easier for students and organizations to hold parties. "I think that the most recent problems that anticipated ZOO's disbandment are symptoms of the general problem facing all social houses due to the failure of the commons system to facilitate enough of the party scene on campus," he said.

He would achieve this through the creation of same-day party registration, party host checklists and a map of available locations. In addition, Hickey would create a committee of student organization leaders to coordinate weekly social events, schedules and resources. He would also like to expand student use of the CFA and The Grille to host more musical performances and social functions.

On academic issues, Hickey would like to cut down on the time for the notification of final grades, institute a system by which final exams or papers could be returned by mail in the summer and expand physical education credits for club sports.

Addressing community life, he would like to support more student-created art across the campus and make available a special edition of *The Campus* for students abroad.

Should he be elected, Hickey is also looking forward to the prospect of working with the new President of the College. He said, "I think that given this great opportunity, it is critical that next year's SGA leadership be knowledgeable, experienced, realistic and visionary. Next year must not be a time for non-activity and disorganization in the SGA."

"I am confident that everything on my platform is attainable," he said. Hickey hopes to bring students back into the student government process. He sees the recently implemented MidDRS and SGA's commuter-parking bill as steps in the right direction to solving fluctuating problems on campus and hopes to see the Collegiate Readership Program continued by the SGA, regardless of who is in office.

ELECTION 2004 SGA PRESIDENT

CANDIDATE: Andrew Jacobi '05
MAJOR: History and Economics
HOMETOWN: Pacific Palisades, Calif.
EXPERIENCE: No formal SGA experience

While Andrew Jacobi '05 is new to the Student Government Association (SGA) arena, he is quick to discard tags of being either uninformed or revolutionary and hopes to sway students with what he considers a modest, but significant platform.

His platform aims to bridge what he calls "a clear divide" between the SGA, students and administrators. He claimed, "The student body does not really know or care about what the SGA does and, consequently, the administration does not feel the need to listen to the SGA on important issues."

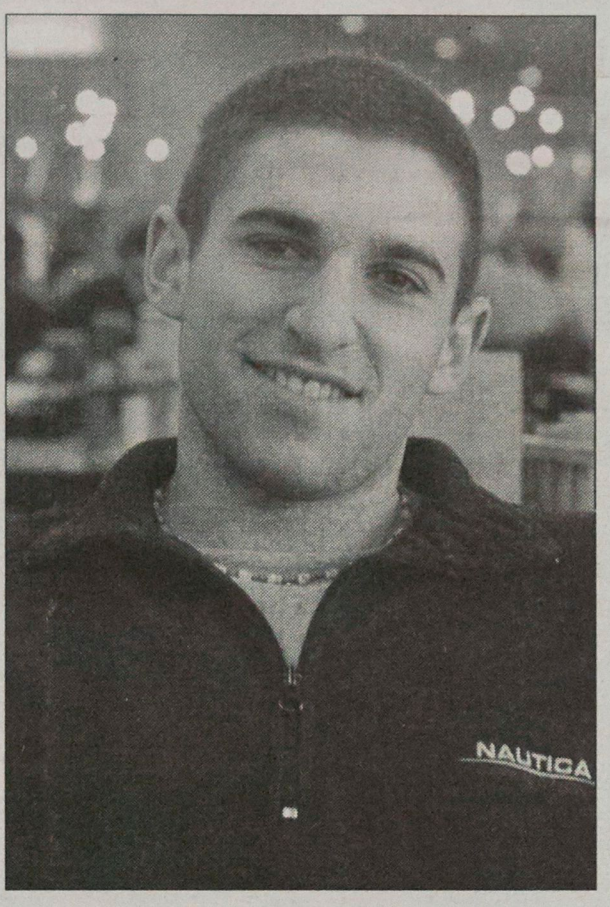
He proposes a weekly e-mail from the SGA to all students, which would detail current issues before the SGA, as well as matters being discussed by the administration. The remainder of his platform is a series of what he considers innovative but reasonable proposals. He wants students to have greater input on course offerings. While he supports the current Student Advisory Councils, Jacobi wants those representatives to be able to suggest courses which faculty and administrators will seriously consider. "As students move towards careers after Middlebury, it is important that the school remains flexible to needs of the students in the coming years by offering some courses previously deemed too 'vocational,' such as accounting," he said.

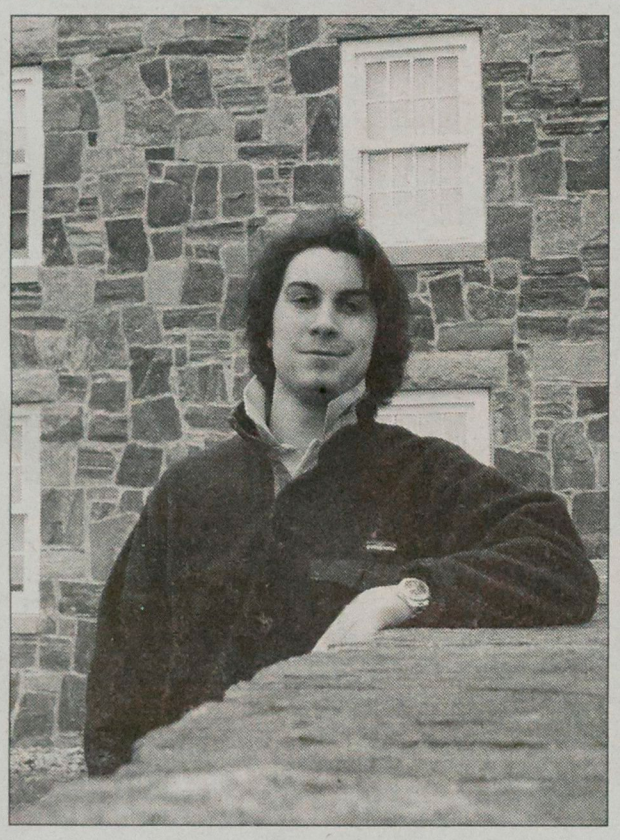
Jacobi also wants to amend the physical education requirement so that community service may be substituted for one or both of the requirements.

In the social life realm, Jacobi is a social house resident and supporter of the social house system. He criticizes the commons' social events, stating that, "the main purpose of the commons system should be administrative." He would like the College to subsidize alcohol for parties and "acknowledge the important role that social houses play in their ability to throw large, safe parties." Also on social life, he offers an innovative solution to students who, despite any incentive, party off-campus — he "would like to see the school create a student-run, volunteer taxi service." This service would pick-up students off-campus for a small fee.

In the end Jacobi seeks first and foremost to reestablish the SGA's role in the College. He noted, "With so much change occurring in Old Chapel in the coming year, I think we have a great opportunity to set a precedent that the SGA represents the concerns of the students and therefore must be taken seriously."

Jacobi called the new Room Draw policy "tough this year because no one saw the changes coming." He believes the new system will succeed more and more as it ages, so long as the administration sticks with it. However, he feels that the concept of decentralized dining — one of the three cornerstones the Enhanced Residential Plan — is "trying to divide an already small community." Concerning Public Safety, he feels that "areas of campus could use more lights and emergency call boxes." The candidate considers crime rare at the College, and sees both Public Safety and the Middlebury Police Department as effective at handling it.





ELECTION 2004 SCCOCC

CANDIDATE: Andrew Carnabuci '06
MAJOR: History
HOMETOWN: Chappaqua, N.Y.
EXPERIENCE: Two-year member of Community Council, SGA cabinet member

Andrew Carnabuci '06 has a slightly different vision of student government's role — "I don't think it's as much leading as it is serving." And following the withdrawals of former candidates Mike Vilarello '05 and Andrea LaRocca '05 from the SCCOCC race, Carnabuci now sees himself as "the most capable person to serve." This seasoned SGA cabinet member is mounting a "pro-student platform" in reaction to the cutting down of off-campus housing and ZOO's expulsion from Palmer House.

His most potent ideas are very much geared towards campus social life, as he is campaigning for the registration of parties in residence hall suites and the elimination of party curfews and keg limits.

Carnabuci has also been closely following this year's presidential search and would like to seize the opportunity available next year to establish an SGA cabinet member position of presidential liaison that would report to the SGA while maintaining a close relationship with the College's newest executive. "This position would be especially useful if an 'outsider' is chosen as president who does not have a clear sense of the Midd-kid," he said. The candidate ultimately envisions a "less formal SGA where everyone is involved." Carnabuci recalled that this year only one student attended the open Community Council sessions that are held for students each week. He similarly envisions a more open forum in the SGA, and he would like to see more bills co-written by students and their commons senators. "Not much legislation went through the Senate this year," he said, adding that such deliberation will help combat the prevailing sense of campus apathy toward SGA issues.

Carnabuci hopes to give the student government back to the students. "I am a pro-student candidate — I am here to serve. I know social life sucks here, but I'm here to fix it," he said.

Although next year's comprehensive fee has already been voted on, Carnabuci would like to allocate some of the Campus Activities' funds at the start of the coming academic year so as to continue the Collegiate Periodical Program. Carnabuci thinks the College would benefit from an "informed citizenry," and thinks the initiative "takes us outside the Middlebury bubble." The candidate also proposed taking a comprehensive view of the commons system at the beginning of the next administration's term to "see how it can work for us *now*," he said. Concerning an incident discussed in the Community Council last year over free expression in a banner hung outside a lounge, Carnabuci adamantly feels there should be no restraint of free discourse on this campus and that the College should not be obligated to take a community stance on any such issues.

looking back and to the future

File Photo/Vlad Lodoaba

Environmenal Chair Ian Ausprey '04 speaks at a recent SGA meeting with Sam Rodriguez '04 and Andrew Carnabuci '06.

SGA performance lacks gusto

Rodriguez and company attempt to finish strong

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

A commuter-parking bill is in the works right now, and the SGA is still discussing proposed changes to the alcohol citation policy that would help protect the rights of 21-plus drinkers on campus.

Despite these accomplishments, the SGA has struggled to implement Rodriguez's self-proclaimed "innovative" ideas. "Some initiatives we had to cut due to finances," said Rodriguez. "I wish I had focused more on policy-based initiatives. Reviewing the Handbook and looking for policies that stand out as being problematic is a great way to develop legislation."

Rodriguez alluded to a number of other obstacles. "The College's endowment has not been nearly as high as those of competitor schools," he said. "With this in mind, the administration has to use funds efficiently. I've also been wary of drawing upon the Student Activities Fee to fund SGA initiatives. I took a lot onto my plate," concluded Rodriguez. "I did what I could."

Rodriguez, Carnabuci and Brainerd Commons Senator Annie Davies '06 all cited the SGA's role in the preservation of J-Term as its most notable accomplishment this year. Carnabuci called it the organization's "finest moment," and noted that while "the SGA has been accused of using this accomplishment as a sort of veil to disguise its inaction, it did save J-Term, and that in itself is action — action that benefited everyone."

An SGA campus-wide e-mail sent out shortly after the faculty voted down a proposal to eliminate J-Term led many students to believe that the SGA wished to take full credit for the outcome, but Rodriguez asserts that this was not the case. "A lot of people deserve credit," said Rodriguez, "including [SEAC Chair] Steve Clarke ['04]. He was there every step of the way, and as president, I'm only taking credit for appointing and advising [him]."

Rodriguez cited appointing Clarke as his proudest presidential achievement, and added that the efforts of the SEAC were not publicized because he and the other members "didn't want to set a tone that [they] were trying to be rabble-rousers."

"We went public as soon as we could," he explained. "Clearly the SGA doesn't deserve all of the credit, but Steve Clarke and the rest of the SEAC deserve to be acknowledged for their efforts. A lot of their work was behind closed doors out of necessity, but the SEAC's contribution was nonetheless very significant."

Student Co-Chair of the Community Council Erin Sullivan '04 noted that "The preservation of J-Term was the accomplishment of the committed members of the SEAC supported by many students outside student government who were proactive in vocalizing their concern about the potential disappearance of J-Term from the calendar."

I took a lot on my plate. I did what I could.

—SGA President Sam Rodriguez '04

Regarding the persistent problem of student apathy on campus, Sullivan said she believes students are "roused by inconvenience," adding that it "has been a struggle for the SGA to inspire students to become less apathetic."

"It's nearly impossible to galvanize the student body to be interested in all SGA issues," Rodriguez, speaking from experience, pointed out. "I wasn't interested until I ran [for president]."

It is true that students are largely unaware of the SGA's presence on campus. "I don't really know what the SGA has done this year. I'm not sure anybody knows what's going on," said Kristine Varney '06, echoing the sentiments of many other students. "Our class representative solicited input from students regarding the first-year pledge bill. I contributed, and thought my opinion was well represented," she added.

NEWS ANALYSIS

"I think it is incredibly important that students aspiring towards leadership positions requiring a high level of accountability and encompassing a significant range of responsibilities should be fully prepared to accept such responsibility and commit themselves entirely to the demands of their job," explained Sullivan. "Negligence tends to have domino effect that can obstruct the path towards change and the overall efficacy and a credibility of a student organization or governing body."

However, Sullivan also affirmed that it is possible to reinvigorate the on-campus political awareness of Midd-kids. "Student voice really can matter," she said. "If enough students rally around an issue they can make things happen. An example of such perseverance is the devoted efforts of those involved in the fair trade coffee campaign. They have successfully mobilized a core of students around an initiative and have been persistent in pursuing their goal, which is to have the dining halls offer fair trade coffee. If students demonstrating similar passion and commitment participate in the SGA, change will take place and infuse the outlet for student voice with a new kind of energy and purpose."

With SGA elections fast approaching, the student body will be looking for candidates with the ability to make things happen. Rodriguez and the rest of the SGA were far from inactive this year, but their efforts are indicative of a governing body that, for whatever reason, is incapable of reaching its full potential. Contrary to Rodriguez's statements, a "rabble-rouser" might be just what the SGA needs. As Rodriguez said in a past issue of *The Campus*, "I think every thoughtful person, at some point in his life, looks around and concludes, 'We can do better.'" The SGA does deserve credit for its efforts and accomplishments this year, but there is certainly room for improvement.

Vilarello bows out of SCCOCC race

By Taylor Johnston
Staff Writer

Mike Vilarello '05 recently announced his withdrawal from the election for Student Co-Chair of Community Council (SCCOCC). In the days immediately following Vilarello's decision, the position was entirely uncontested until SGA Press Secretary Andrew Carnabuci '06 announced his candidacy Tuesday.

"I realized I would have to give up my other commitments in order to do the job I wanted to," said Vilarello. "I was looking through the initiatives I wanted to run and realized I could just as easily pass them as a Community Council member or senator this year."

Vilarello has served in several offices as a member of the Student Government organization, including Press Secretary, Student Representative to Public Safety and Inter House Council Senator as a member of KDR. He began a term as a Community Council member this semester.

"My decision not to run was not because I wanted to step back on my SGA involvement," he explained. "I just felt my initiatives could pass even if I just stay a member of Community Council and the Senate next year."

In his current term as a member of Community Council, Vilarello has gained an appreciation for the level of commitment required of the co-chair. "The right type of candidate should make Community Council their first commitment," he says. "It should be someone willing to give up things to make Community Council a priority."

As next year's president of Hillel, the College's Jewish student organization, Vilarello feels he would do the Council a disservice by dividing his time between more than one leadership position. As a result of Vilarello's decision, the SGA has subsequently pushed back the date by which students must declare their candidacies. As of Tuesday evening, Andrew Carnabuci is the only candidate for SCCOCC.

SGA ups and downs

COLLEGE READERSHIP PROGRAM	↑
HEALTH FOOD CAFETERIA	↓
J-TERM	↑
TIPS TRAINING REFORM	↑
REVISED CITATION POLICY	?
MiddDRS	↑
CREDIT CARDS AT THE GRILLE	↑
FREE/ANONYMOUS HIV TESTING	↑
RECREATIONAL SPORTS CLOSETS	↓
COMMUTER PARKING	?
FIRST-YEAR PLEDGE BILL	↓
MIDD XPRESS OPEN LATER	↑

Possible Nalgene health hazards investigated

By Andrea Gissing
Associate Editor

Nalgene bottles are ubiquitous on campus, appearing in all sizes and colors with a myriad of stickers plastered on the sides — some even brandishing commons logos.

But a study published in the April 2003 issue of *Current Biology* may cause some students to think twice about their choice of beverage container. The study, led by Dr. Patricia Hunt of Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio, indicated that bisphenol A (BPA), a monomer found in the polycarbonate plastic used in the popular water bottle, could pose serious health risks to humans.

Hunt's study found that when mice were exposed to low doses of BPA, chromosomal abnormalities normally found in only one to two percent of mouse eggs increased significantly. These rare cases — known as aneuploidy, an abnormal loss or gain of chromosomes — were first observed when a lab technician washed polycarbonate mouse cages and water bottles with a harsh detergent, which enabled BPA to leach from the polycarbonate. Subsequent studies performed by Hunt replicated the accidental findings and concluded that low doses of BPA had significant effects. BPA has been shown to mimic the female hormone estrogen, and if the aneuploidy occurs in human eggs, these abnormalities could cause miscarriages or birth defects.

Critics of Hunt's study say that the data from experiments on mice cannot be transferable to humans.

Nalgene Outdoor Products has issued a statement on the company's website in response to Hunt's study and a subsequent report published in *Sierra Magazine*, stating the company's confidence in its product.

"Polycarbonate like that used in Nalgene bottles has been studied, tested and safely used for more than 40 years in products for human consumption," the site said. "In fact, use of polycarbonate is approved as safe for products that come in contact with food, including baby bottles, by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, the European Union Scientific Committee on Food, the Japanese Ministry for Health, Labor and Welfare and other international regulatory agencies.

"Government agencies worldwide have spent over four decades researching the effects of bisphenol A and have found that BPA in plastic does not pose a risk to consumers or to the environment."

The website explains that many stories regarding the Hunt study contained speculation on health effects that were not addressed by the actual findings of the study.

Although the study was published nearly a year ago, there has not been a dramatic decrease in the prevalence of Nalgenes on campus. "I figure that just being alive today I get plenty of toxins in my body," said Hilary Eisen '06, a long-term Nalgene user. Eisen had read the study but was not overly concerned with the conclusions drawn. "I was concerned a little bit," she said. "I used to leave my water in my Nalgene for weeks on end and now I don't do that any more. My thought [upon reading the article] was that I want to see the levels that they exposed the mice to in order to get those effects. I haven't heard any documented cases in humans." Eisen figures that "all plastics leaks, and glass is impractical."

"We're all exposed to organic molecules everyday — some scary, some inconsequential," said Professor of Chemistry and Biochemistry Jeff Byers. While he asserted that the press has a tendency to "blow things out of proportion," Byers said, "from the small amount I've read [on the studies done on BPA] it seems like something that might be a cause for concern. However, I've read the article and I still use my Nalgene."

Photo Illustration/ Andrea Gissing

Recruiters visits on the rise at CSO

By Amanda Goodwin
Staff Writer

Middlebury College's Career Services Office (CSO) reports that 48 Middlebury seniors received offers from 41 firms through CSO's collection process, which included five off-campus venues in Boston, New York City and Washington, D.C., and eight standard monthly collections of resumes.

The figure of 48 jobs far surpasses last year's 34, setting a Middlebury record. CSO Associate Director for Recruiting Donald Kjelleren cited that at there are at least 30 additional overall job opportunities this year as compared to last.

CSO Executive Director Jaye Roseborough attributed the increased number of interested employers to a combination of CSO staff outreach and promotion and an improving economy. Kjelleren, noted that employers delayed hiring until the year's end. "Employers have been playing a 'wait and see game' all year and have delayed hiring until they were sure of their hiring needs. Fewer people are leaving jobs and employers do not want to get caught over-hiring for over-estimated vacancies," he said.

Roseborough stressed a particular increase in the availability of summer analyst and consulting positions. "We have a whole new analyst class, and a number of students have found jobs in the field. Internships for analysts have also been the best we have ever seen."

According to Roseborough, consulting is also a career on the rise. Following the dot-com debacle, an improved job market was created for consulting firms, and other businesses that were directly affected by the fall and ultimate rise of the economy.

Roseborough and Kjelleren further attribute the improved yields to greater alumni involvement. "We are seeing that Middlebury alumni really want to hire Middlebury students. We have been working that network effectively, as well as the parent network, in securing jobs and internships," Roseborough continued. The two also drew attention to the heightened benefits of student internships in augmenting chances for future employment, noting that an increasing number of seniors arrive on campus in the fall with a job offer in place.

"Seniors need to pay attention when they see that a graduate is vested in hiring Middlebury seniors. These are what I call high-return job leads," said Kjelleren. "Our alumni network, MiddNet Online, is rife with such referrals — if the savvy Midd jobseeker maximizes the full calculus of networking."

CSO's success in acquiring job postings could also be witnessed at this week's Senior Jobs Fling, a table centrally located at Ross Dining Hall where entry-level jobs were 'handed-out' to seniors in their field of specialization.

Andrew Martel '04, who applied to over 15 postings on the CSO Website, credits CSO with helping him secure several rounds of interviews and an eventual position. "CSO's direct contact with the employers gets Middlebury students' applications noticed. If I had to apply via the employer's website or directly mail in my application, it would probably get lost in the shuffle," he said. In addition to a greater availability of jobs, starting salaries have also increased in the major work fields, including accounting, engineering, consulting, educational, government and financial positions.

Streep, Reeve among degree recipients

Continued from page 1

Streep will receive a Doctor of Arts. Streep has been nominated for a record-breaking 13 Oscar nominations, portraying roles in theatre, film and television. Streep graduated from Vassar College and won a scholarship to the Yale School of Drama, receiving a master of fine arts degree.

F. Washington Jarvis, W. Storrs Lee '28 and Paul Muldoon will receive Doctor of Letters degrees.

Jarvis will retire as headmaster of the Roxbury Latin School in Boston, a position he has held since his arrival in 1974. He is an ordained Episcopal priest and worked as curate at St. Paul's Church in Cleveland.

Lee will not attend commencement, but will receive a Doctor of Letters degree on May 11 in Maine, where he lives. Along with two other faculty members, Lee served as interim president of Middlebury College in 1941.

He completed his duties as a Navy Reserve intelligence officer, attaining the rank of Commander. He served as dean of men at Middlebury from 1945 to 1955.

Muldoon is currently a professor at the Middlebury College Bread Loaf School of English. He won the Pulitzer Prize in 2003 for "Moy Sand and Gravel."

A Doctor of Humane Letters degree will be presented to Claire W. Gargalli '64. Gargalli is currently a trustee emeritus of Middlebury and Carnegie Mellon Universities. She was a Trustee from 1988-2002 and served as the chair of the board of trustees from 1995-1999.

Gargalli most recently worked for Diversified Search Companies — a Philadelphia-based executive search firm — where she was a vice chairman and partner from 1990-1998.

Arthur B. Cohn and Marcia Kraft Goin '54 will garner Doctor of Sciences degrees. Goin was the first female graduate of Middlebury to earn a medical degree. Currently, she is a professor of clinical psychiatry at the University of Southern California's Keck School of Medicine, and the director of residency training in the adult psychiatric outpatient department.

She is also the President of the American Psychiatric Association — the oldest medical specialty organization in the country. Cohn is the executive director and co-founder of the Lake Champlain Maritime Museum in Vergennes.

He is also a Professional diver, an adjunct assistant professor at the University of Vermont and Texas A&M University, advisor to Vermont Senators Patrick Leahy and James Jeffords on matters involving cultural resources and the lake and the author of several books.

Kenneth R. Feinberg will receive a Doctor of Laws degree. He is currently the special master of the federal September 11 Victim Compensation Fund and the managing partner and founder of the law firm The Feinberg Group.

He has been a mediator and arbitrator in thousands of disputes involving matters such as Agent Orange and asbestos personal injury litigation. Feinberg also taught a Winter Term Class at the College in 2003.

Accepted class of 2008 at a glance

By Virginia Harper
Staff Writer

After sending admissions decisions to applicants of the class of 2008 over the College's Spring Break, Emma Willard House announced last week the statistics of the incoming admitted class. After six years of receiving an increasing numbers of applications, admissions felt a drop in applications this year. The Admissions Office received 5,464 applications for the class of 2007 while this year's applicant pool numbered only 5,120 — a 6.2 percent decrease.

Most general statistics stayed the same, however. English once again topped the list of intended majors, followed by Biology. All 50 states and 70 nations have been represented in both the accepted class of 2008 and 2007.

A large number of high SAT scores distinguished this year's applicants — 375 members of the most recently admitted class received a perfect score of 800 on either the Math or Verbal sections of the SAT, compared to 172 in the admitted Class of 2007.

Class of	2006	2007	2008
Applicants	5,298	5,464	5,120
Class Size	570	560	------
% Admitted	26	23	24
Presidents	134	154	137
Team Captains	524	552	535
States	49	50	50
S. Dakotans	0	2	
N. Dakotans	1	1	2
Californians	125	114	113
Nations	65	70	70
Non-New England	65%	75%	77%
800 SATs	187	172	375

A REMINDER

Albert Bitici

In the deadliest week of American troops in Iraq since combat began, an anonymous community member plastered the walls and windows of Ross Dining Hall with photos and biographies of service men and women who have died during the U.S.-led occupation.

MOO trips amended to include volunteer preview program

By Daniel Phillips
News Editor

In its 17th year offering orientation trips, Middlebury Outdoor Orientation will undergo a major transformation, joining forces with what was once This is Vermont! and Volunteer Preview to create a unified orientation program.

While maintaining the MOO title due to students' strong attachment to that name, the program will offer service-related and less physically rigorous options. An outdoor theme will predominate throughout.

The timing of the program is also being moved earlier to be an optional addition before traditional College orientation begins.

The program will be based out of Bread Loaf, from where students will depart on two to three day trips of their choice.

Students will return to Bread Loaf for a final night together (and the opportunity to shower) before heading to the Middlebury campus for the beginning of traditional orientation.

Director of Outdoor Programs Derek Doucet explained that the motive for changing the program was so that traditional orientation would feed right into the beginning of the academic year and that outdoor orientation would not be an "intervening experience."

"Some advantages of this time are that people are not required to come to Middlebury then go back home before orientation (which might defer students further afield from going on trips), the trips can be a day longer and it is still before classes start, so people on trips don't have to worry about upcoming exams or other work," said Caitlyn Long '05, a former MOO trip coordinator.

Cost, however, "was not a factor at all" in the decision to change the orientation format, maintained Doucet.

"Middlebury has a great tradition of a lot of participation in these programs. We'd like to maintain that to the extent that we can," he said.

In terms of response from former leaders, "they were originally nervous," said Doucet. He added that the Center for Campus Activities and Leadership was worried about changing something that has been such a fundamental part to their Middlebury experience. "There's a lot of personal investment in these programs," he said.

Assistant Director of the Alliance for Civic Engagement Betsy Bisson elaborated that past service projects from the volunteer preview program have worked with the Addison County Community Action Group and the Middlebury Land Trust — they are likely to continue as sources for service opportunities, but specific trips will not be planned until the summer, she said. "I'm really excited that the three programs are coming together in a unified way and that we can improve on these programs that are already so good."

Doucet noted that the service trips will be based out of cabins at the Bread Loaf campus. "We're really psyched — we think it's going to be really fun to…create this 'base camp' theme," he said. However, Long added, "Something that will be more challenging about the new MOO is that people will not be allowed to move onto campus when they arrive for their trips, nor will leader training be on campus."

"At first other students were really skeptical about the new plan," she continued, "and I've talked to others who still are, but I think a lot of that comes from not really understanding what is going on, or why this change is being made."

public safety log

APRIL 8, 2004 TO APRIL 11, 2004

DATE	TIME	INCIDENT	CATEGORY	LOCATION	DISPOSITION
4/8/04	12:00 p.m.	Theft	Bicycle	Sunderland	Referred to MPD
4/9/04	11:14 p.m.	Drug Violation	Marijuana	Starr	Referred to Commons Dean
4/11/04	1:08 a.m.	Property	Parking Sign	Voter	Open
4/11/04	5:20 p.m.	Vandalism	Vehicle	E Lot	No Suspects

COLLEGE SHORTS

BY ANDREA GISSING AND AMANDA GOODWIN

Sorority oversteps ethical line

Greek life coordinators at the University of Missouri discussed placing sanctions on participating chapters after a member of the Gamma Phi Beta sorority sent an e-mail demanding members to lie about their health history for the Greek Week blood drive. The e-mail emphasized to Gamma Phi Bata sisters the importance of chapter participation for the sake of winning the Greek Week competition. This year coordinators will place sanctions on involved chapters that will affect the results of their participation in this year's drive.

Coordinators feel that students have lost "the true meaning of blood donation because they focus too much on the competition." "I don't care if you got a tattoo last week — LIE," the e-mail stated. "I don't care if you have a cold. Suck it up. We all do. LIE ... Even if you are going to use the 'Do Not Use My Blood' sticker, GIVE ANYWAY."

The coordinators and administrators will form a task force over the summer to discuss how to improve blood donation education.

The international headquarters of Gamma Phi Beta released a news statement apologizing for the e-mail. "Gamma Phi Beta does not condone misleading health officials or pressuring sisters into donating blood," said the statement. American Red Cross spokesman Jim Williams said that donated blood undergoes testing at a national lab to guarantee its safety, regardless of declarations made on the donor's health history. "We are in this for a life-saving mission, not a competition," he said. "If we save just one life, it is worth it, even if (donors) are dishonest."

Source: U-Wire

Diversity Defended

Following a drawn-out debate over the Supreme Court's forced elimination of point systems favoring minority applicants, three of the largest university proponents of affirmative action have experienced only minor decreases in the diversity of their newly accepted freshmen classes.

The University of Michigan, the most visible supporter of affirmative action and point systems as a means of ensuring diversity, dropped only one percentage point in diversity composition, with black, Latino and American Indian students comprising ten percent of all admitted students. The University of Michigan's peer institution, Ohio State University, experienced similar results, with the quantity of students of color dropping two percentage points from last year, also comprising ten percent of admitted students. At the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, the percentage of black, Latino and American Indian students remained steady at seven percent. While these statistics may signify a Supreme Court victory, *The New York Times* reported Tuesday that changes in the admissions process have incurred higher costs on universities. Subsequent to the Supreme Court decision, which banned the point system but allowed race to remain a factor in the admissions process, many universities have been forced to spend significantly more money to institute policy changes, and in some instances, hire dozens of supplementary admissions counselors and application readers.

In particular, Michigan's added costs coincide with a university-wide deficit, having lost 10 percent of state money and introduced $37 million cuts, resulting in faculty and employee layoffs and larger classes. According to Mabel G. Freeman, assistant vice president for undergraduate admissions, Ohio State similarly has increased admissions process expenditures by $250,000 and hired 35 additional application readers.

Source: *The New York Times*

localnews

On deck: Vermont Yankee to up wattage

Nuclear power plant spurs controversy by seeking to expand its role in Vermont

By Katherine Doorley
Staff Writer

It might seem surprising that the majority of the power supplied by state utilities is obtained from a nuclear power plant in southern Vermont. The presence of the Vermont Yankee Power plant has been an issue of concern for residents and activists since the plant became operational in 1972.

However, the level of debate over the future of the plant has increased as of late due to a request by its owners, Entergy Nuclear, to increase the amount of power produced by the plant. Supporters argue that nuclear power is a clean source of energy, while opponents worry about the environmental and health concerns of increasing power production at an aging nuclear plant.

The uprate, with the appropriate conditions, would promote the general good of the state by providing additional power to New England's power grid.

Vermont Yankee has one of the oldest boiling water reactors in the nation. The plant has a maximum dependable production capacity of 540 megawatts, which provides 80 percent of the electric power for the state. A February 2003 proposal by Entergy Nuclear requested a 20 percent increase in power production, which would add 110 megawatts of production to the current 540 megawatts and would permit Entergy to sell excess power to other New England states.

Plant officials explained the process by which the power production would be increased, saying that they would do so by "increasing the reactor core temperature and the resulting increase in the amount of steam that passes to the turbine/generator. This extended power uprate would be achieved by loading more 'active' fuel around the sides of the core. The highest fuel temperature in the center would remain the same, but the temperature nearer to the sides of the core would be greater. The result is a higher core temperature and more power production."

Supporters of the increase in power also argue that increasing power production would increase production of an environmentally safe form of power, as nuclear power production does not emit harmful gases, isolates its waste products from the environment and requires less land for production than alternative forms of energy such as wind power. In addition, nuclear power is the chief contributor to the nation's voluntary program to reduce carbon emissions, according to Entergy.

Opponents of the increase in power production argue against both nuclear power in general and Vermont Yankee in particular. Nuclear power has long been criticized for the levels of radiation it emits into the soil and water of surrounding communities, which can cause cancer and other health problems in residents living near the plants. Similarly, the fluorine and chlorine compounds used to enrich uranium have also been attributed to ozone depletion.

In addition to these basic concerns about the type of power, there is the concern about the age of Vermont Yankee.

Vermont Yankee is the oldest power plant in the United States to attempt to increase productivity by more than 13 percent, stirring up fear that an increase of this size in an aging plant would greatly increase the potential for an accident. As the level of power production increases, the potential damage from accidents also increases.

On March 15, the Vermont Public Service Board (PSB) ruled in favor of Vermont Yankee, stating in their report, "The Board found that the uprate, with appropriate conditions, would promote the general good of the state by providing additional power to New England's power grid and economic benefits to Vermont." The PSB did, however, address some of the concerns of those protesting the uprate by imposing two conditions on the uprate. "[The] federal Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) must conduct an independent engineering assessment of Vermont Yankee and Entergy Nuclear must provide assurances that taxpayers will be protected from financial harm if output is reduced because Vermont Yankee exhausts its storage capacity more swiftly as a result of the uprate." These conditions do not guarantee that Entergy Nuclear will be able to proceed with the power increase, but they do increase the chances of that happening.

Vermont Yankee and Entergy Nuclear must provide assurances that taxpayers will be protected from financial harm if output is reduced

Following the decisions by the Public Service Board to conditionally approve the power increase, the Vermont Senate passed Senate bill SR0021. This bill calls on NRC regulators to conduct a thorough investigation along the lines of the investigation conducted at Maine Yankee in 1996 in which the discovery of a large number of safety concerns forced the ownership to close the plant, as it was cheaper than fixing all of the problems. Thus, it is possible that similar results will emerge from the investigation of Vermont Yankee.

Although the PSB has given the green light to Entergy Nuclear to proceed with their power increase, the possibility remains that the uprate will eventually be banned. Vermont residents will simply have to wait to hear the results of a safety investigation before finding out whether or not the nuclear power plant in their backyard will be allowed to increase the nuclear portion of their state's total power sources.

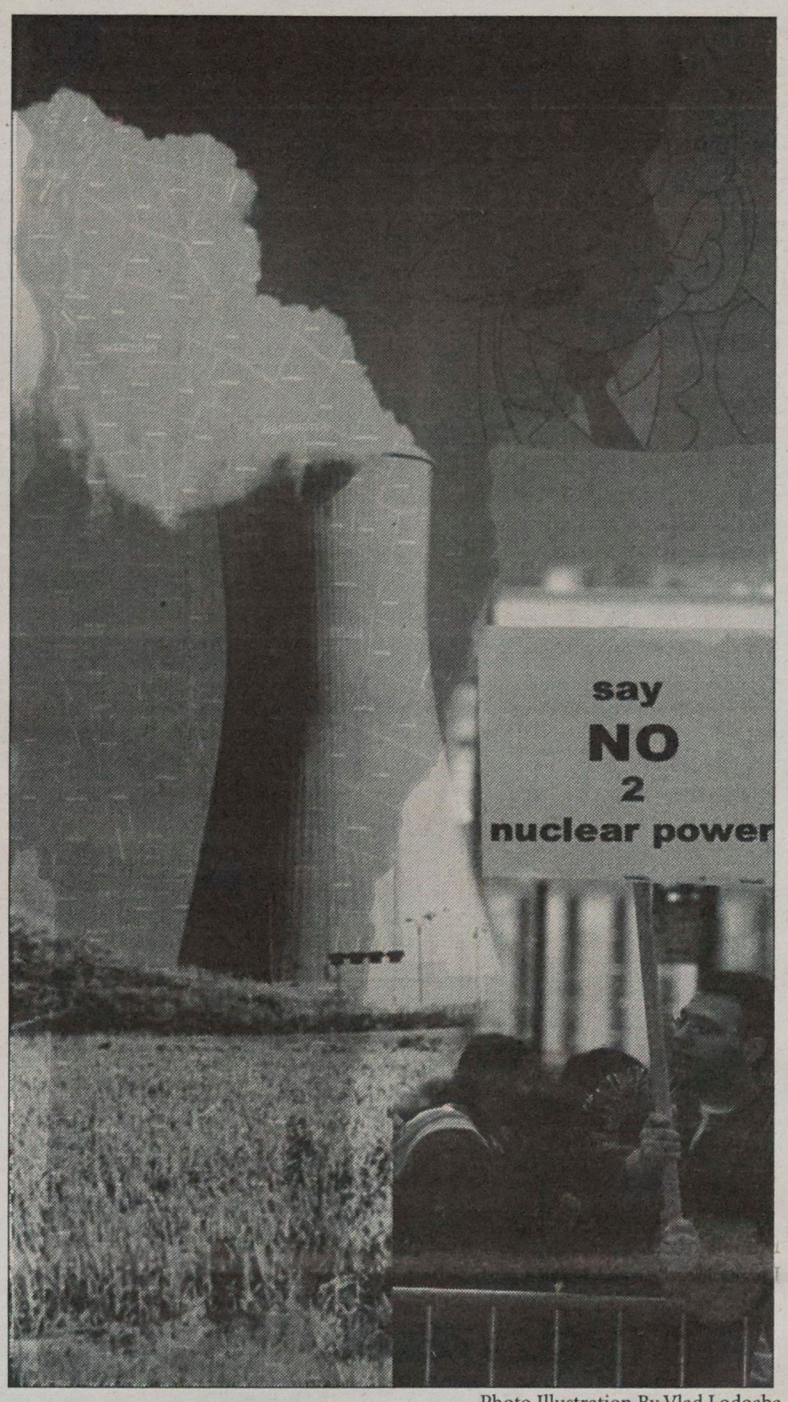


Photo Illustration By Vlad Lodoaba

Although Vermont Yankee's nuclear power plant must still pass investigations before its proposal to generate more energy is approved, state residents have expressed concerns about the proposal's environmental implications.

8
POWER PLAY
DEBATE ENSUES OVER PROPOSAL TO INCREASE NUCLEAR POWER IN VERMONT

9
REPRESENT!
STEVEN MAIER DISCUSSES LOCAL POLITICS

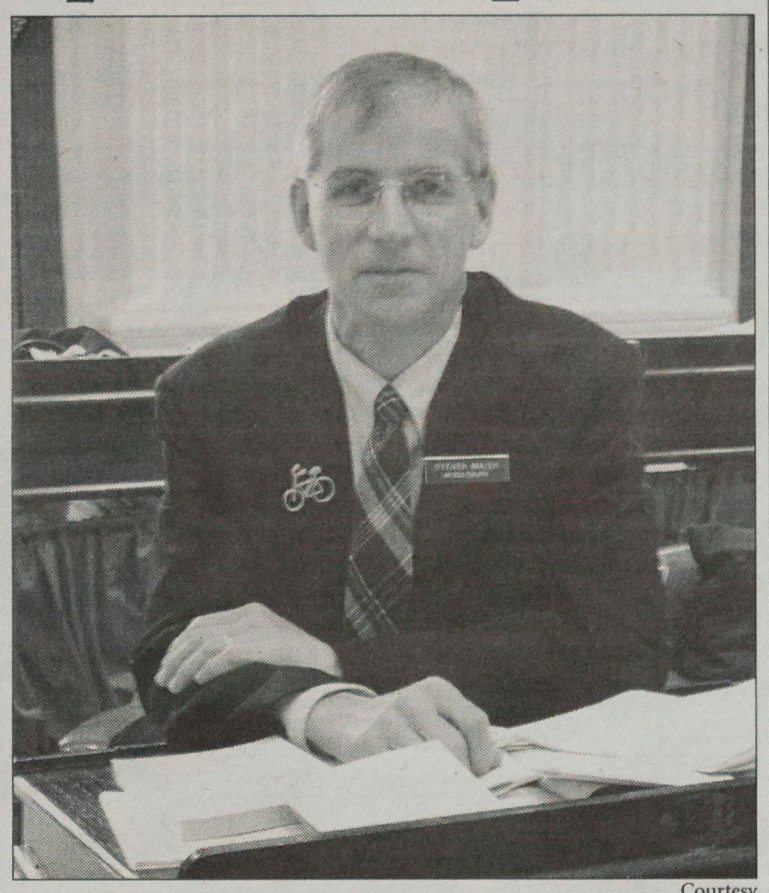
9
JET SETTER
AIRLINE REACHES NEW HEIGHTS, SAY PASSENGERS

10
BEYOND THE BUBBLE
OUR HIPSTER ADVENTURES AT BROWN

Maier mounts the steps to Montpelier

Local News Editor Joshua Carson sat down this week with Representative Steven Maier (D-Middlebury), one of Middlbury's two representatives to the Vermont State Legislature, to get an idea of what it is like to be a State Representative.

***The Campus:* How is it running a campaign in Vermont?**
Maier: The basic expectation for a House candidate is that you knock on every door and produce a pamphlet. That is the primary part of your campaign. You do make other appearances at other events. You get a lot of invitations. And it costs between $2,000 and $3,000.
***The Campus:* Can you describe the atmosphere in the Vermont State House? Are you able to work out differences with your colleagues across the aisle?**
Maier: It depends on the issue. Some issues, yes, but some issues, no. There are over 1,000 bills that get introduced, and I like to say that at least half of them have good ideas. Which means that there are a lot of really stupid things that get introduced, but those are not the majority. But you probably only have time, in the two year period, to pass about 200 or 300 hundred bills. And there are big, hard issues — like health care. We're fighting over some environmental permit issues right now.
It is an interesting time in Montpelier because you have one party that controls the house and the Governor's office, that being the Republicans, and the Democrats in control of the Senate. What that tends to mean is that those issues that people decide they really want to deal with are only going to get passed if they are somewhere near the center on the issue. That was the case last year when we passed a major overhaul of the way that Vermont funds its public schools. There is less political rancor now than there was last year.
***The Campus:* It sounds like the people in Killington are still a little upset. Do you have any thoughts on Killington moving to New Hampshire?**
Maier: [Laughs] Not anything for public consumption. Vermont is not a home rule state. That means that any power and authority that a local town has, it only has at the pleasure of the State Legislature. Any charter change that a town wants has to get approved by the State Legislature. So there are jokes in the legislature about dividing the town up into four and giving them to each of the surrounding towns or dissolving the town or something like that. But I think it's all mostly public relations.
***The Campus:* What would you say are some of the issues you are most passionate about?**
Maier: As my background suggests, I am passionate about environmental issues and in particular about some energy-related issues like looking for more independent sources of energy here in Vermont. I think this is important from all sorts of standpoints — global climate change and carbon emissions and those sorts of issues and also to reduce our reliance on fuel from abroad. But it is frustrating because the technology is there and we could easily do it.
I was placed on the Health and Welfare Committee, so most of the work I do in the legislature is on healthcare. And I continue to work with the ultimate goal that everyone would have equal access to healthcare. But again, because of the way it is structured at this point in time, it is just impossible to achieve this goal. Again, we could do it. In fact we are the only industrialized Western country that doesn't have universal health care. I suppose those are the big issues for me — the environment, energy and healthcare.
***The Campus:* What is your take on Howard Dean?**
Maier: I like Howard quite a lot. There were lots of liberal Democratic folks [in Vermont] who didn't think he was very liberal. He was thought of as more of a centrist Democrat. Vermont was one of the first states with comprehensive welfare reform, which he also was a champion of — a moderate sort of program. So it is funny for him to then come out as a presidential candidate who was seen as being one of the furthest liberal members. But it was really fun. It was great. I think that he helped energize a lot of folks into the political process, younger folks in particular.



Courtesy
One of Middlebury's representatives to the State Legislature, Maier (D)promotes bills regarding healthcare and environmental issues.

***The Campus:* Do you have any higher aspirations beyond House Representative?**
Maier: Well, not at this point. I still have three kids at home and it is very hard to make this work. But maybe in eight or 10 years. There seems to be a few people that stay with politics and then move on to something else. So we'll see with me whether I stick with politics or move onto something different all together.
***The Campus:* What is one of your proudest achievements in the House thus far?**
Maier: I've done a lot of work behind the scenes on healthcare right now, but nothing really substantial has passed. We've done a few things on substance abuse treatment and mental health relief. That would be the thing I would hope to be able to accomplish over the next few years.
***The Campus:* What do you think about the Williams Sucks T-shirts?**
Maier: Well my favorite is "Eph, it's what's for dinner." I never really thought of Middlebury being a very different institution than Williams. It seems more alike than it is different. I went to a lot of the sporting events and I rooted for Williams for the first four or five years. But it got to a point when it was really hard. I got to know a lot of the coaches at Middlebury, and they are really good friends of mine. You get to know some of the kids on the teams, you get to see the players and you identify with them. And then this other team comes to town and they have a purple "W" on their shirt. What is that supposed to mean? But we'll see if that changes now that my son is going to Williams.

— JOSHUA CARSON, LOCAL NEWS EDITOR

JetBlue soars in airline ratings survey

By Greg Duggan
Staff Writer

Lured by the cheap flights leaving Burlington International Airport, Middlebury students have been keenly aware of JetBlue since the airline's emergence over three years ago. Now an Airline Quality Rating recently ranked JetBlue as the top airline in the United States during 2003. Over the course of the last few years, JetBlue has grown to be a widely popular alternative to the larger airline companies such as Delta and America Airlines.

Brent Bowen, director of the aviation institute at the University of Nebraska, and Dean Headley, associate professor of marketing at Wichita State University, organized and authored the annual report. JetBlue ranked ahead of other airlines such as, in order of their rating, Alaska Airlines, Southwest Airlines, America West and US Airways.

When the New York City-based airline first began offering flights several years ago, skeptics claimed that JetBlue's low-cost model would never work. Nevertheless, JetBlue managed to build a fleet comprised entirely of new planes, complete with television screens in each seat back. The company cuts down on costs through practices such as offering bag lunches instead of in-flight meals, but the main key to its success lies in the attitude of its employees.

"We have five values that we live and breathe on a daily basis," said Ann Beland, general manager of JetBlue's Burlington office. "The values are safety, caring, integrity, passion and fun. That's what we look for in all the crew members that we bring on board, and I really think that's made a difference in our success."

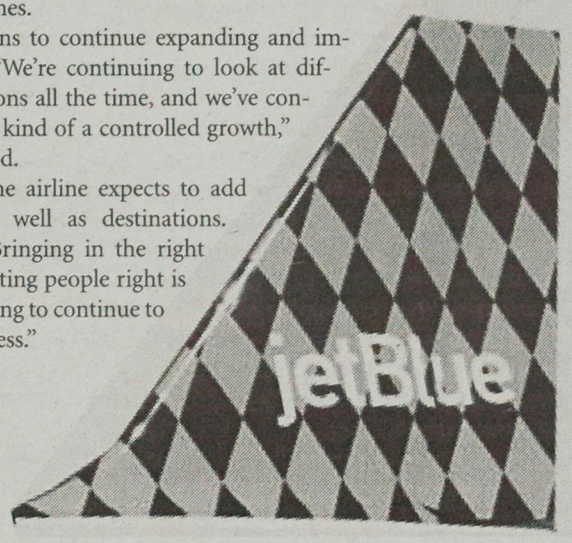
Beland was not at all surprised to learn about JetBlue's top spot in the Airline Quality Rating, and credited the airline's employees for helping JetBlue achieve its recognition. "We've worked very hard to achieve the goals that we've set in maintaining very high levels of customer service. I was thrilled to hear [the results of the report]."

Middlebury students who have flown with JetBlue have nothing but praise for the airline. Chris Small '04 first heard about the airline from friends and relatives. Since he began flying, he told *The Middlebury Campus*, "I don't recall any problems, any delays. It's very efficient." He also cited the "manageable cost" as another plus. Erika Holsman '04 had similar praise. "I enjoyed it. It's great and it's cheap, because they don't have all the extra costs like dinners and what-not. I was on time, there was good service and really friendly flight attendants, which gets more and more unusual every time I fly."

Small and Holsman's comments resonated with the airline's low complaint record. Only 0.31 customers per 100,000 filed complaints to the Transportation Department. In this regard, JetBlue is second only to Southwest Airlines.

JetBlue plans to continue expanding and improving itself. "We're continuing to look at different destinations all the time, and we've continued to grow, kind of a controlled growth," Beland explained.

She said the airline expects to add new planes as well as destinations. Beland said, "Bringing in the right people and treating people right is really what's going to continue to add to our success."



Rural Realities
By Crystal Belle

On Friday, April 9, 2004, I escaped to Burlington, Vt., for a radical change. As a black woman here at Middlebury College, there have been several rough hair days as a result of the lack of black hair care services available in this state. Nonetheless, I have managed to live through the chaos, devoting at least seven hours per week to my chemically straightened hair. I never really questioned the need to straighten my hair, since it has been a routine of mine (since I was 12 years old) as well as of millions of other little black girls worldwide. But upon arriving in the lush Green Mountain State I was forced to do my own hair. I slowly realized that my straightened locks were an obsession, something I felt I couldn't live without … until that fateful Friday last week.

I had a revelation and decided that my processed locks had to go. What was it about my natural hair that made me afraid to reveal it? Perhaps it was the societal image of straight, blond hair as beautiful. Or, better yet, perhaps it is the fact that any form of straight hair is acceptable in mainstream corporate America. For generations, society considered blacks ugly because of their nappy hair. As a result, we have been trained to hate ourselves, and have attempted to fit the European ideal of beauty. Think about how many black women you see in the corporate world with afros? How about on television? It is not acceptable for us to be proud of our true physical features, and we cannot display them without being labeled radical or militant. Part of this misconception ties into the "Black is Beautiful" movement of the 1960s during which afros represented a direct political statement. Although political actions are still associated with wearing an afro, my hair should not determine whether or not I become the next Condoleezza Rice.

So there I stood, on that fateful Friday, ready to be liberated. Luckily I had found Diversity Hair Salon in Burlington, which specializes in black hair care. With a few of my dear friends in the car, and freedom in my heart, I drove there. My girlfriends were excited, but I felt both nervous and anxious. As we managed to get lost on the simplistic Route 7, my nerves continued to be on edge. I knew I was ready, but why was it taking so long to arrive at my final destination? It was like waiting to be released from prison, while someone searched for the key to my jail cell. However, I knew that nothing could stop me, for I was going to shave my head that day, even if I had to do it myself!

Finally I arrived at Diversity Hair Salon and was delighted to see an Afrocentric-looking black man who was very calm in nature. He happened to be from my hometown, Brooklyn, and to top it off, his name was Jamil, my brother's name. I knew it was more fate than coincidence, and I sat down calmly. Approximately 20 minutes later I was a new woman, hair on the ground, naps on my head. And I guess the rest is history!

THE BLUE HEN Kitchen & Market

Where else can you get **wood-fired brick oven pizza**, chicken quesadillas, 34° beer, philly cheesesteaks, homemade soups, pecan praline sticky buns, **wood-fired brick oven pizza**, grilled cheese BLTs, real cree-mees, atm machine, beanpot baked beans, Monument Farms milk, sweet Lorettas, **wood-fired brick oven pizza**, 6 oz. angus burgers, grilled chicken Caesar salad wraps, hot chocolate, blue hen haiku, lasagna, Vt. lottery tickets, mashed potatoes with lumps, **wood-fired brick oven pizza**, clam rolls, peach cobbler, meatloaf, mud radio, maple meadow eggs, marsetti, Cubans, sausage and peppers, breakfast sandwiches, batter-dipped onion rings, **wood-fired brick oven pizza**, fresh salads, daily newspapers, ben & jerry's, mac and cheese, Archie, buffalo popcorn chicken, roasted vegetables, fresh homemade hummus, red potato salad, Italian subs, **wood-fired brick oven pizza**, Levonian natural casing franks, red bean chili, cole slaw, reubens and a great spot to relax and enjoy it all? Oh, and did we mention the **wood-fired brick oven pizzas**?

The Blue Hen Kitchen & Market
1st stop off the hill / 54 College St.
Middlebury, VT
388-6408

TULLY and MARIE'S

Just want a burger?
- (or a change of scene) -
Our Cafe Menu is always available!
Featuring:
- The Best Burger in Town (VT raised beef!)
- Vegetarian Garden Burger
- Mulligan's chicken wrap

And on our dinner menu:
- Famous Pad Thai
- Laurie's Southern Fried Chicken

7 Bakery Lane, Middlebury, VT
802.388.4182 tullyandmaries.com

do you have a story idea?
e-mail campus@middlebury.edu

The Middlebury Campus

invites you to advertise your local business here

visit
www.middleburycampus.com
for our rate sheets

OR

e-mail
campusbiz@middlebury.edu
for more information

news.
local news.
opinions.
features.
arts.
sports.

it's all online.

middlebury campus.com

THE LOCAL FLAVOR

BY LISIE MEHLMAN

RESTAURANT
MIDDLEBURY BAGEL AND DELICATESSAN
LOCATION
11 WASHINGTON STREET
HOURS
MON-SAT: 5-2, SUN: 5-1
FEATURES
TRADITIONAL DELI FARE

The Middlebury Bagel and Delicatessen is this wee town's hidden treasure. In fact, I deliberated whether even to compose this review, for I don't want this gem of a deli to become as crowded as Ross' lunchtime rush. The small restaurant, located across the street from Shaw's, is perfect for students who currently stifle their early morning cravings for bagels and lox, who seek their very own deli at which to partake in brunch gossip à la the "Sex and the City" ladies, or who are just looking for a quaint place to get some grub and do their calc homework.

On the menu are the usual bagel offerings — plain, onion, everything, poppy, cinnamon raisin, etc. My dining partner and I tried the everything and the plain varieties, both of which were doughy and delicious. We could have eaten a dozen more of the soft, incredibly fresh bagels (for only $8.50). The everything bagel was tasty but not too oniony, which was a plus, and we did not leave feeling paranoid that we'd have some big seed stuck in our teeth for the rest of the afternoon.

As for the cream cheese, well, they are quite creative at the Middlebury Bagel and Delicatessen. Flavors include olive, bacon horseradish, roasted garlic and cilantro, sundried tomato as well as some more traditional ones. The olive spread was supremely good, again, because it was not overwhelmingly olive-ish. The deli seems to have mastered the art of perfectly flavoring its items.

Sandwiches abound at the restaurant. From turkey to tuna, corned beef to ham, you cannot go wrong; we ordered a tuna sandwich. The bagel sandwiches, which consist of a bagel, a serving of lunchmeat and vegetable toppings, cost six dollars each. Those toppings, I must add, were incredibly fresh, as the tomatoes and onions we ordered most definitely added to the delightfulness of our meal.

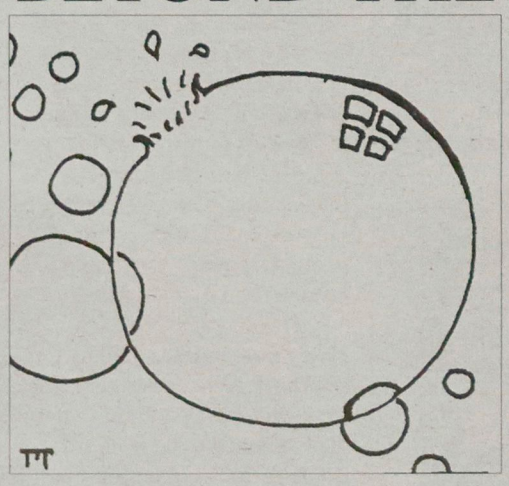
Rather than concocting your own sandwich, you can order from the local favorites section of the menu, which includes reubens and veggie wraps. The deli offers different lunch specials everyday as well as many enticing desserts like cookies and donuts resembling Krispy Kremes, which I avoided like the plague.

The whole setting of the deli is very cute. If you like, you can sit at the counter and look out the window. The view of Shaws' parking lot is quite picturesque. Or, you can sit in the main dining area where there is a wide array of art on display. For instance, there is a Weiland painting of a humpback whale adjacent to a decorative fan on the wall. While the décor lacked a unifying theme, I still enjoyed it. The black and white checkered floor lent the deli a somewhat retro feel.

One strange thing is that the garbage receptacles are really just big boxes in the middle of the dining room. You just place your trash and plates in them. It was not the classiest thing. In fact, I was almost expecting the women behind the deli counter to hand me a sponge and tell me to get cleaning. Nevertheless, the employees were friendly and informed.

Offering affordable nosh just a brisk walk away from campus, the Middlebury Bagel and Delicatessen promises each customer a thoroughly enjoyable eating experience.

BEYOND THE BUBBLE



BY CLAIRE NIELSON AND LISIE MEHLMAN

This weekend Middlebury's adventure-seeking Beyond the Bubble writers journeyed further beyond the bubble than ever before. We traveled to Providence accompanied by some other members of our Middlebury crew.

Our first real stop, after many pit-stops at skeevy gas stations and bus stops, was at Lupo's on the Strand. We were not quite as excited as the rest of the group about the concert that we were attending. As "Death Cab For Cutie" (Claire's mom: What band are you going to see? Claire: Taxi something or other… I don't know) music blared, we sort of watched everyone else. There was the weird guy next to Lisie who looked like a white Steve Urkel. He kept pushing his glasses back on his nose and yelling things like, "Turn up the bass." Lisie was embarrassed for him, wondering why he did not invest in a pair of better fitting glasses.

Then there was the 45-year-old man. Did he not feel strange watching a concert surrounded by hundreds of 'tweens and hipsters? And finally, our favorite duo was the two 20-somethings listening to the concert with ear plugs in. Despite our limited knowledge of the proper indie concert etiquette, we danced the whole time — head banging and all— and pretended that we did not feel out of place or like the biggest posers ever. Hey, we knew two songs.

After the concert, which we were delighted to leave after a scary, punkish bouncer yelled at us, we stopped for some pizza with the Brown crowd. Pizza: amazing. Brown crowd: well, we did see Bobby Kennedy, RFK's son, so that was cool, especially for our friend Gena who has some sort of strange fantasy involving him. Sean Connery we can understand. Paul Newman, fine. But Bobby Kennedy? We just don't see it.

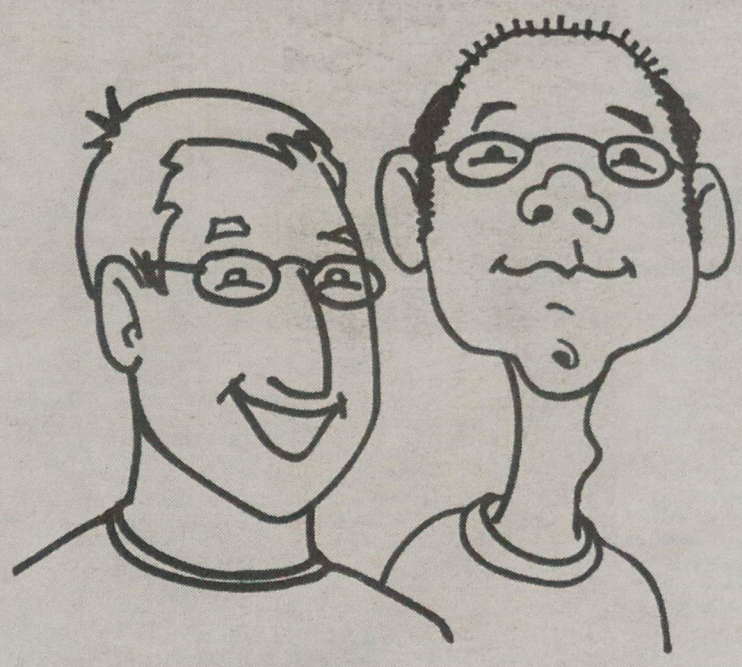
Catching up with chums from high school that night was a huge treat. As self-proclaimed queens of stalking people in the face book (the nunnery girls developed a coordinate system), we especially enjoyed Brown's online face book. Can you think of anything better? We can't. The highlight of the trip, clearly, were the hours between three and six in the morning as the two of us stayed up watching bootlegged DVDs of "The O.C." We are now almost entirely caught up on all the California drama. And although we obviously still prefer Seth, Ryan did grow on us a bit. I mean, he did sing in musicals.

The next day was absolutely gorgeous. We moseyed up and down the funky streets of Providence. We vintage shopped, ate (in the Mehlman family, the rules of Passover do not apply while traveling) and chatted.

We bought friendship necklaces as a joke. We shared this tidbit of information with the salesperson and she was not amused. She reminded us of the person that "shhed" us in the library tonight as we tried to catch up on the work and gossip we missed over the weekend. Who shushes these days? We weren't even being that loud. Honest.

A trip to Providence did us a world of good. It is strange to think that not all college kids have the huge task of deciding whether to eat at Ross or Proctor every night. Only we know how gross the co-ed bathrooms in Battell really are, and we felt pretty damn lucky coming back to our little bubble.

Neil & Otto's pizza



OPEN SUNDAY - THURSDAY 4PM - 1AM
OPEN FRIDAY & SATURDAY 4PM - 2AM

-stuck in the library studying?
-too cold to walk to the Grille?
-not in any condition to get off the couch?
Call Neil & Otto's Pizza today!

Try our famous pizza styx!

Call 388-6774 or 388-6776

We deliver right to your door

VISA/MC gladly accepted

*tax, delivery and toppings extra,.

ADVERTISE WITH

The Middlebury Campus Publications

LOG ONTO
www.middleburycampus.com
FOR RATE SHEETS

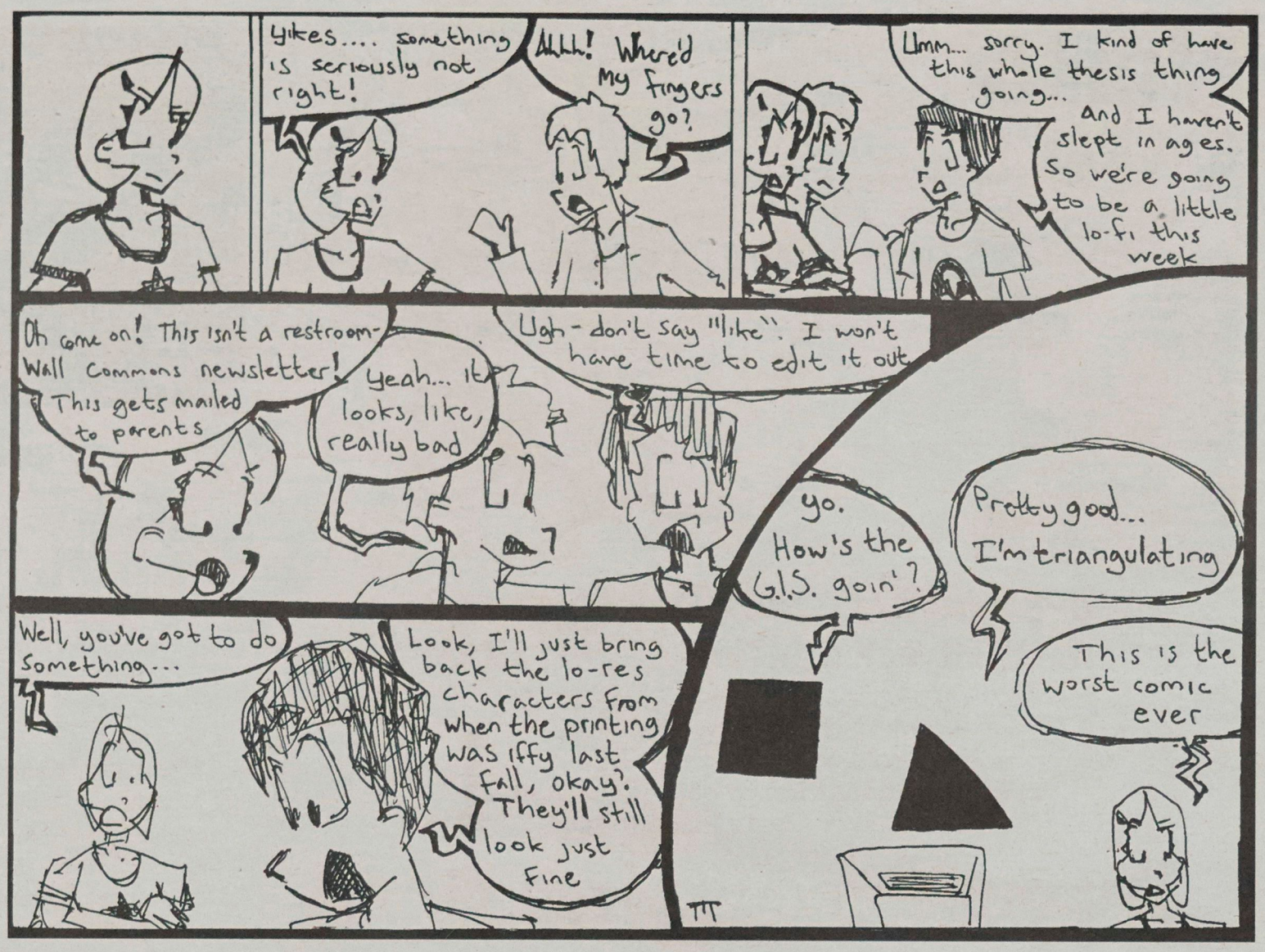
CLASSIFIEDS

Florida only $69 one way all taxes included.
Mexico/Caribbean $125 each way
all taxes included.
Europe $169 each way.
Other worldwide destinations cheap.
Book on-line www.airtech.com or
(212) 219-7000

Nantahala Outdoor Center is now hiring enthusiastic individuals with a passion for guest service for all summer 2004 positions. Join our fun, dynamic team in the Great Smoky Mountains, with boating, biking, and hiking around every bend. Positions include Whitewater Raft Guide, Reservations, Restaurant & Retail Staff. Housing available. Call 828.488.2176 x 132; visit www.noc.com (an Equal Opportunity Employer)

House for rent: Starting June 1, 2004
Country setting, two miles from town
4 bedrooms, 2 baths, kitchen, living, dining, loft, deck. $1,600/month includes trash removal, plowing, sanding, lawn mowing. Partially furnished. Maximum 4 inhabitants, $200/month each additional person. No pets. Call 802-373-6708 or 388-7027. Leave message.

opinions


Yikes.... something is seriously not right!
Ahhh! Where'd my fingers go?
Umm... sorry. I kind of have this whole thesis thing going... And I haven't slept in ages. So we're going to be a little lo-fi this week
Oh come on! This isn't a restroom-Wall Commons newsletter! This gets mailed to parents
Yeah... it looks, like, really bad
Ugh - don't say "like". I won't have time to edit it out
yo. How's the G.I.S. goin'?
Pretty good... I'm triangulating
This is the worst comic ever
Well, you've got to do something...
Look, I'll just bring back the lo-res characters from when the printing was iffy last fall, okay? They'll still look just Fine
TT

The Middlebury Campus
Editorial Staff

Editor-in-Chief
Devin B. Zatorski

Managing Editor
Claire M. L. Bourne

Business Director
Deborah Jones

Associate Editors
Andrea Gissing
Edward Pickering
Chesley Thurber

News Editors
Daniel L. J. Phillips
Thomas Drescher
Caroline Stauffer

Local News Editors
Joshua Carson
Lisie Mehlman

Opinions Editor
Jake Kuipers

Assistant Opinions Editor
Jason Siegel

Features Editors
David Barker
Abbie Beane
Aglaya Glebova

Arts Editors
Chris Grosso
Erika Mercer

Sports Editors
Tom McCann
David Freedman
Ryan Reese

Photography Editors
Albert Bitici
Vlad Lodoaba

Online Editor
Scott Bulua

Page Designer
Laura Kuhl

Tech Consultant
Dan Stone

Illustrator
Nate Dorr

Copy Editors: J. McKinley, J. Siegel, W. Birkett

Editorial

In Praise of Newspapers

Eating alone? Don't despair. The days of feigning fascination with the weekly calendar are over.

No, this editorial is not a shameless act of self-promotion, even though *The Middlebury Campus* newspaper makes one hell of a dining companion.

There's a competitor newsstand now, and it's stocked daily with fresh copies of *USA Today*, *New York Times*, *The Financial Times* and *The Burlington Free Press*. That's great news for information-starved students who want to appear absorbed in something other than their own company while grabbing an early-morning meal solo. Thanks to the efforts of Student Co-Chair of Community Council Erin Sullivan, the USA Today Collegiate Readership Program has landed at Middlebury.

Faculty and often students themselves routinely lament the student body's oblivion to current events. There's even a cliché to represent Middlebury students' disconnect to the outside world — the Middlebury Bubble.

A rack of newspapers may not burst it — the College is, after all, nestled in rural Vermont. But the initiative represents an important step in combating student apathy and making news accessible. Perusing the front page over breakfast sure beats trekking to MiddXpress, the Blue Hen or Starr Library in search of the paper.

Sullivan and the Student Government Association merit our praise, even if they've compromised *The Campus*' cherished newsstand monopoly.

Drinking from a bowl? We can do better

The cup, dish and bowl dilemma has reached epic — even comic — proportions. But there's a contingent on campus that's not laughing. It's those savvy enough to realize that the dining hall's vanishing service ware drains the same budget that determines the quality and quantity of menu items. And that budget comes in large part from tuition dollars forked over by Middlebury parents, the sums growing greater by the year.

Dining Services should not have to divert resources to continuously replenish supplies of basic items. Students need to stop taking dishes. They also need to make use of the recently debuted Dish Recovery Program bins placed in dorm hallways all over campus.

Dining Services also has a role to play. The department should offer disposable cups alongside reusable ones for students who want to take something on the go. By not offering those products — or by offering them only sporadically — the department seals its fate. Students will inevitably make off with their beloved dishware. Dining Services must also articulate a firm policy against removing reusables from their facilities. This policy should be prominently displayed at dining hall exits.

Students will oppose any addition to the roster of rules and regulations. But drinking Pepsi out of a bowl gets old fast.

Better Sex and Relationships

People our age spend a lot of time and energy thinking and talking about relationships and sexuality. Every day there are conversations about hooking up, who likes whom, who's good relationship material, who's hot, who's not.

Yet, how much do we really know about our sexuality, where it came from, how it has developed, how we behave in relationships, what do we like or dislike about relationships? At best, we're all still experimenting and trying to find answers to those questions. For that reason I've helped organize a discussion series to talk about the challenges and questions standing before myself and my peers. This discussion group will have two more meetings to follow the past four. These meetings are held Tuesdays at 7 p.m. in the Hepburn Lounge.

At the meetings there is a discussion facilitator who has worked as a sexuality educator for 20 years. She brings a topic for discussion and students are allowed to talk about whatever is comfortable for them. This simple act of talking is amazingly valuable. Those who participate in meetings often walk away enlightened. Not surprisingly, people love talking about sex. Everyone's got something that relates to the discussion, even if it's just to say the topic is something they don't know much about.

The atmosphere at meetings is safe, confidential and supportive. The next topic coming up will cover how to communicate in relationships especially when they aren't going well. There is a lot that is "lost in translation" between the two very unique people in a relationship. In three weeks we'll talk about the dating scene at Middlebury or the lack thereof. The goal of that meeting will be to help people get what they want and need out of a relationship, no matter what form that relationship takes.

On Tuesday, April 27 at 7 p.m. in the Hepburn Lounge, I look forward to seeing anyone who wants more out of their relationships.

Freeman White '03
A CRA Wonnacott Commons
from Middlebury, Vt.

OPINIONS SUBMISSION POLICY

The Opinions pages of *The Middlebury Campus* provide a forum for constructive and respectful dialogue on substantive issues. With this in mind, *The Campus* reserves the right to deny publication of all or part of a submission for any reason. This includes, but is not limited to: the making of assertions based on hearsay; the relation of private conversations; the libelous mention of unverifiable events; the use of vulgar language or personal attacks. Any segment of a submitted article that contains any of the aforementioned will be removed before publication. Contributors will be allowed to reference prior articles published in the Opinions section or announcements for the public record. If a reference is made to prior articles, the submission will be considered a letter to the editor. *The Campus* will not accept or print anonymous letters. The opinions expressed by contributors to the Opinions section, as well as reviews, columns, editorial comics and other commentary, are views of the individual contributors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the newspaper. *The Campus* welcomes letters to the editor at 250 words or less, or opinions submissions at 800 words or less. Submit works directly to the Opinions Editor, Drawer 30, campus@middlebury.edu or via the paper's website at www.middleburycampus.com. To be considered for publications, submissions must be received by 5 p.m. Tuesday. *The Campus* reserves the right to edit all submissions.

The Middlebury Campus (USPS 556-060), the student newspaper of Middlebury College, is published by The Middlebury Campus Publications. Publication is every Thursday of the academic year, except during offical college vacation periods and final examinations. Editorial and business offices are located in Hepburn Hall Annex, Middlebury College. The Middlebury Campus is produced on Apple Macintosh computers using Adobe InDesign 2.0 and is printed by BD Press in Burlington, Vt. The advertising deadline for all display and classified advertising is 5 p.m. Friday for the following week's issue. Mailing address: The Middlebury Campus, Drawer 30, Middlebury College, Middlebury, Vt., 05753. Office phone: (802) 443-5736. Business phone: (802) 443-5737. Please address distribution concerns to the Business Director. First class postage paid at Middlebury, Vt., 05753.

Bring in bouncer to curb cup loss

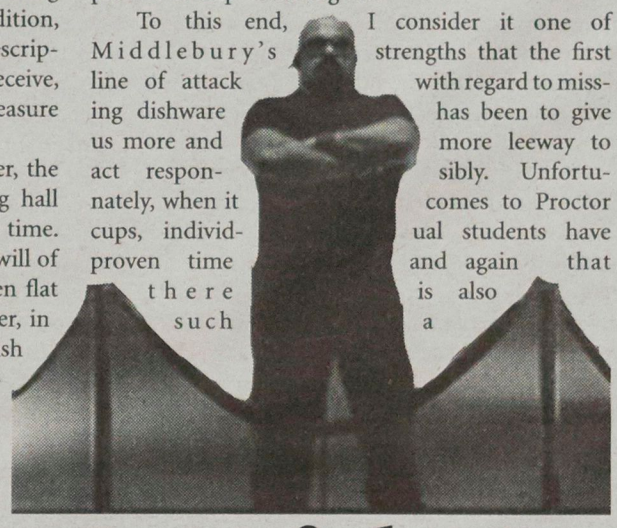
The armed mugging of a Middlebury student below Ross Dining Hall two weeks ago was the last straw. Apparently, the suspect saw the student counting his money *inside the dining hall,* and proceeded to follow him downstairs and take it all from him. Yes, this is speculation, but anyone who eats at Ross knows Osama bin Laden could sneak his way in without breaking a sweat. I've always thought there should be a dining hall czar preventing stuff like Proctor cups from *leaving* the dining hall, but now it seems such a bouncer would be equally valuable in keeping stuff that doesn't belong from *entering* the dining hall as well.

I'm fully aware of how much this policy would stink for Middlebury students, many of whom, like myself, have benefited from dining hall laxness numerous times before. In addition, I'm sympathetic to the harrowing job description of such a czar, who would no doubt receive, quite unfairly, the brunt of student displeasure from this change in policy.

Unprecedented crimes aside, however, the fact remains that the need for a dining hall czar has been glaringly evident for some time. Repeated attempts to appeal to the good will of students in returning dishware have fallen flat on their faces. I have little faith, moreover, in the efficacy of the newly implemented dish recovery system, and even less in the prospects of an Easter Proctor cup hunt.

No matter what we do it's going to be the same old story: student takes glass of raspberry passo-guava back to room. Student finishes glass while typing paper on gender roles in 17th-century Antarctic penguin societies. Student leaves cup on desk for two to three months, after which time the glass, eternally stained in its fruity hue, either makes its way back to the dining hall via the dish recovery bin, or has a very emotional reunion with Matthew Biette in the Recycling Center. All the while, that same glass could have been used by other Middlebury students roughly 10 times each day for 90 days straight, thus totaling 900 forsaken uses.

I'm tired of wasting paper cups in Ross, I'm tired of taking shots of Diet Pepsi in Proctor, and I'm tired of having to pay for more and more of both of these temporary "solutions." The only correct solution is a czar, and the only topic that remains is the process of implementing one.



To this end, I consider it one of Middlebury's strengths that the first line of attack with regard to missing dishware has been to give us more and more leeway to act responsibly. Unfortunately, when it comes to Proctor cups, individual students have proven time and again that there is also such a thing as too much autonomy. This puts a premium on enforcing the rules as clearly and consistently as possible, even changing them, in this case, to end a lingering problem.

The dining hall czar is something that should enjoy school-wide support. It's probably an expensive proposition, considering that someone must man each dining hall at all times. This expense would be paltry, however, compared to the money we lose every month to missing dishware that must be replaced. Students could also rest assured knowing that they aren't paying for a potential criminal to enjoy a bowl of "soup tomato" before he or she takes our money in a more conventionally illegal way.

Even more importantly, we students must be willing to interpret this change separately from the way we perceive the commons system to be altering student life. Indeed, there's a difference between policies that curtail individual autonomy for the benefit of us all, and policies that meddle with student life in ways that make absolutely no sense to us, and don't receive our approval.

The lack of a dining hall czar is thus a problem we all have a role in ameliorating. All of us at Middlebury, therefore, must step up to the plate on this. Assuming, of course, that there are any plates left.

Charlie Goulding '05
An economics major
from Oyster Bay, N.Y.

The Language of the Pretty People

"No, no," she said, "you wouldn't understand. You speak the language of the pretty people. I live in the world of the ugly." I stared at her aghast. What? The "pretty people?" This funny, smart, caring, warm-hearted, athletic young woman sitting across from me was being completely serious. "You see that guy over there?" she asked pointing towards a tall, dark, handsome young college student putting cafeteria food on his plate, "I could never get a guy like that. They want skinny, pretty girls. I am not one of those girls… So what's the point in crushing on one of them?" I actually felt my stomach turn. She felt resigned to this fate she had written for herself. She wasn't good enough. She continued to eat the food on her plate while I fiddled with my coffee cup. This wonderful human being whom I had the pleasure of knowing was the warped product of society's worst demons.

Raised in Hawaii and a product of inter-racial marriage, Meg did not exactly fit in to the rich, conservative high school she attended after moving to California. Over the next half-hour I listened to her horrific stories of the extent of the superficiality, bigotry and ignorance she faced all four years. When trying out for the volleyball team the coach told her she needed to wear contacts, spandex shorts and pretty red bow. Apparently the fact that she was the best digger out there was no longer sufficient. She avoided the bathrooms after lunch hour due to the number of bulimics in each stall. She opened her locker to find different kinds of diets slipped in anonymously by people thinking they were doing her a favor. "You could be attractive Meg…if you just lost a few pounds!"

So what did she do? She rebelled the best way that she knew how: she kept herself as unkempt as possible, her T-shirts wrinkled and, oh yes, her glasses on. She became *that* girl, the ugly girl, the at-least-you-aren't-going-to-prom-with-Meg! girl. It didn't matter that she had excellent grades, or more importantly that she had an *amazing* sense of humor, a lovely alto singing voice and the biggest heart. Her only friends were those who hated the system as much as she did.

That is what they had in common, a hatred for their surroundings and the need to fight succumbing to it.

I was almost moved to tears by her story not out of pity for Meg, but rather a deep sorrow that this detrimental mindset that governed her environment had to be forced upon anyone and the realization that this is in fact a norm. Though Meg's school might be an extreme example, those underlying messages permeate all aspects of society today. Turn on the TV, what do you see? Viewers are bombarded with consumerist propaganda selling an image and the means to achieve such an image — which for most is either impossible or extremely unhealthy. There is a new show on TV where they film people getting plastic surgery so they can look like a celebrity of their choice, for example Brad Pitt or Britney Spears. Is anyone else physically repulsed by this? Now *there's* something to vomit over!

What is going on? Why are these mentalities allowed to take root and flourish so that they infuse every facet of our lives in this country? Why do we have magazines whose sole purpose is to introduce new diets or new pills or new techniques of weight loss with a smiling, seemingly happy, conspicuously thin man/woman on the cover, as if that image is what we should be striving for! Western feminists point their fingers at Islamic nations, condemning the use of the veil and portraying it as a symbol of female subservience while in the Western world women are being used more than ever to sell, sell, sell. So women are objectified in the most horrific manners and nobody is saying anything about it because sex sells, haven't you heard?

Meg is one of the many to fall victim to the value system that has been so carefully constructed by whoever you care to blame. The point is, this promotion of self-hatred must be stopped. Many of you will write this off as feminist rhetoric, but this isn't just about women, this is about the degradation of humanity. All I ask is that you think about this the next time you turn on the TV or open a magazine or yes, even watch porn. Too many people have worked too hard for us all to be reduced to one giant Britney Spears fan club.

Joya Taft-Dick '06
A religion major
from Hanover, N.H.

NOTES FROM THE DESK

Intolerance at Middlebury College. Unthinkable. That is, unless you're black, gay, Republican or any other minority on campus. Then, suddenly, you realize that Middlebury has a long way to go before it can define itself as tolerant.

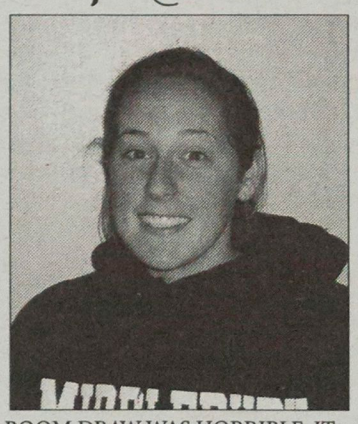
One African American friend of mine has been assaulted with racial epithets shouted through her doors and walls. Does it happen all the time? Of course it does. I would be shocked if no African American, or any minority on campus reported any such encounters. My friend's dean has been supportive, but basically powerless. What else can they do but tell the offenders to stop?

Middlebury prides itself on its encouragement of discussion. Yet the willingness to embrace meaningful, difficult or uncomfortable dialogue is virtually non-existent on campus. Just before Spring Break, I noticed signs for the Newman mass encouraging Catholics to kill themselves, moqa posters torn from the wall and Students for Life's flyers mysteriously disappearing. Where was the outrage? We all know the answer: people simply don't want to acknowledge the severity of these actions, intended in jest or not. So then, what can we do? If the problem at Middlebury is as severe as I indicate, how do we stop it? Simple: We actually make an effort to try. Too many people at this College seem to think that progress towards an unattainable goal (e.g. elimination of racism) is futile, blissfully ignoring that improving the quality of the daily lives of our fellow students to match the comfort that the rest of us enjoy is not only attainable, but noble and worthwhile.

One way to start is to attend the weeklong events sponsored by moqa and Amnesty International this week — Visibility Week and the Human Rights Film Festival, respectively. The students, faculty and staff must begin to engage in meaningful conversation about these uncomfortable topics in such a way that precipitates change on this campus. With Holocaust Remembrance Day this Sunday, I can think of no better way to honor the memories of the victims than to start combating the attitudes that led to their demise.

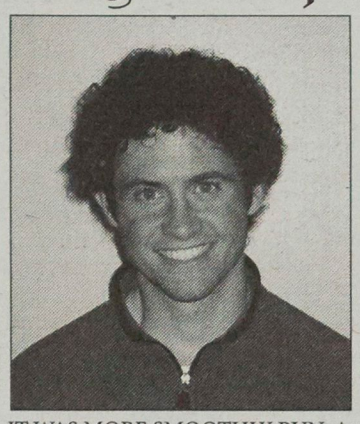
Jason Siegel '06
Assistant Opinions Editor
The Middlebury Campus

The Middlebury Campus online poll



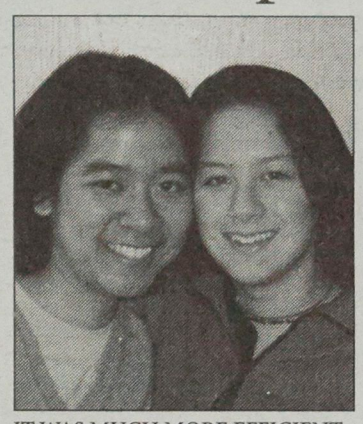
ROOM DRAW WAS HORRIBLE. IT WAS LIKE A DYING CAT.

—GALE BERNINGHAUSEN '05



IT WAS MORE SMOOTHLY RUN. A LOT LESS STRESSFUL [THAN LAST YEAR].

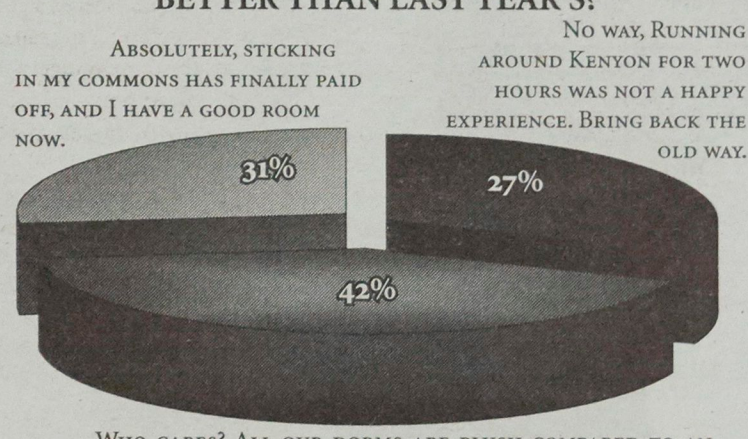
—SEAN LENA '06.5



IT WAS MUCH MORE EFFICIENT THAN LAST YEAR. YOU DIDN'T FEEL HERDED.

—JANET FUNG '06
TARA VANACORE '06

DID THE NEW ROOM DRAW SYSTEM WORK BETTER THAN LAST YEAR'S?


Absolutely, sticking in my commons has finally paid off, and I have a good room now.
31%
No way, Running around Kenyon for two hours was not a happy experience. Bring back the old way.
27%
42%

Who cares? All our dorms are plush compared to an eight-story high rise at some state school.

Results based on 51 responses collected between April 8 and April 13 at www.middleburycampus.com

Next Week's Poll Question: Does the loss of ZOO's house irreparably strain the relationship between Old Chapel and the social houses?

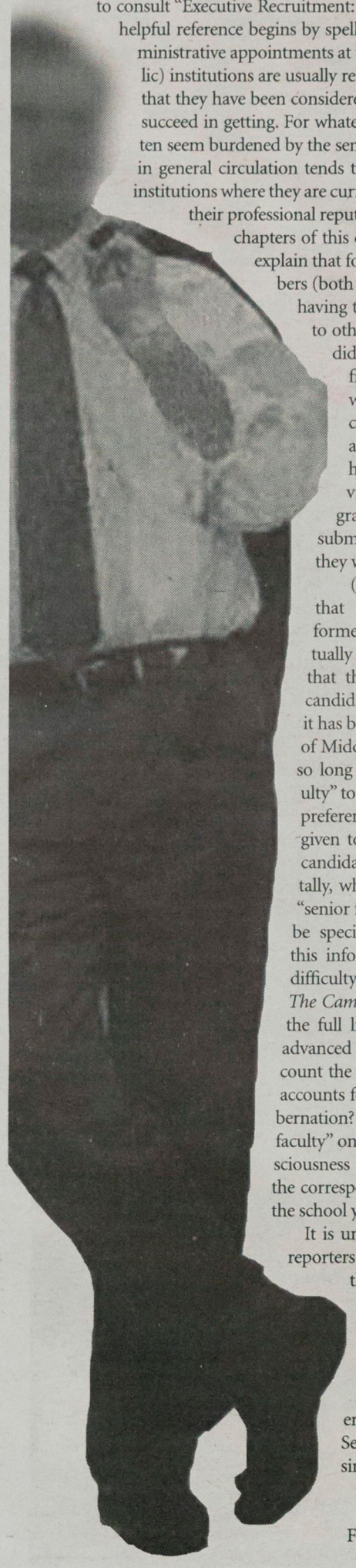
Senior Faculty Members Respond...

To the Editor:

There are various words — none of them pleasant — that might be used to describe the character and motives of people who, under cover of anonymity, engage in loose and unsubstantiated denunciations of others while self-righteously lamenting the "secrecy" of a process they are nakedly attempting to manipulate and undermine. If these unidentified junior and senior faculty members are expecting a round of applause for their complaints, perhaps they ought to come out of the shadows and into the spotlight to take a bow.

As for the Matters of High Principle to which our attention has been summoned by the April 8 issue of *The Middlebury Campus*:

(1) For a concise explanation of the need for the strictest confidentiality in a search process of this kind (which a "source" has alleged to be "suspicious"), *The Campus*'s cohort of masked head-shakers and finger-wavers are invited to consult "Executive Recruitment: A Guide for the Clueless." This helpful reference begins by spelling out that candidates for administrative appointments at this level at private (versus public) institutions are usually reluctant to have it widely known that they have been considered for positions that they didn't succeed in getting. For whatever reason, such candidates often seem burdened by the sense that having this information in general circulation tends to weaken their standing at the institutions where they are currently employed, and to damage their professional reputations in the field at large. Later chapters of this elementary handbook go on to explain that for similar reasons, faculty members (both junior and senior) are averse to having their dossiers include references to other institutions where their candidacy for jobs was considered, but from which employment offers were not forthcoming. The last chapter notes that college graduates are likewise disinclined to have their placement files provide lists of all the colleges and graduate schools to which they submitted applications, but to which they were not admitted.



(2) Since at the very moment that the search committee was formed last fall, it was known to virtually every sentient being on campus that there was at least one internal candidate (and in fact more than one, it has been claimed) for the presidency of Middlebury College, why did it take so long for "more than 20 senior faculty" to submit a letter expressing their preference that no consideration be given to appointment of any internal candidate for this position? (Incidentally, why can't the precise number of "senior faculty" signatories to this letter be specified? Does whoever provided this information to *The Campus* have difficulty counting above 20? Perhaps *The Campus* would consider publishing the full list, so that readers with more advanced mathematical skills could count the number for themselves.) What accounts for this long period of silent hibernation? Did these "more than 20 senior faculty" only see the light and regain consciousness with the arrival of spring and the corresponding approach of the end of the school year?

It is unfortunate that the editors and reporters of *The Campus* have allowed themselves to be used in this shameful way, to produce an article that, for the sake of a little front-page razzle-dazzle, at a minimum unthinkingly impugns the integrity of every member of the Presidential Search Committee — every single one.

Sincerely,
Stephen Donadio
Fulton Professor of American Literature

To the Editor:

I am disappointed that your article on the Presidential Search disregarded basic professional standards of journalism and disseminated baseless allegations made by a few anonymous administrators and faculty. A string of quotations from unnamed sources casts aspersions on the transparency of the search, on the level of the faculty input and on the credentials of Ron Liebowitz as a candidate.

You refer to a letter sent by "over 20 senior members of the faculty" to the Presidential Search Committee last month recommending that the next president be "chosen from outside the College." While a small fraction of the faculty apparently prefers anyone from the "outside," irrespective of other credentials, their perspective does not reflect the view of the faculty as a whole. That is why between November 2003 and March 2004 their petition collected little more than a score of signatures from among the 240-strong faculty.

I find it rather ironic that the senior members of faculty and administration you quote as expressing concerns about the transparency of the process wrap themselves in the cloak of anonymity. As anyone who has followed the process knows, faculty representatives on the search committee have worked very hard over the past five months to solicit input from all interested colleagues. I respect the integrity of this process, including the fact that unless we treat their candidacy in confidence, we will not attract the best-qualified candidates. The latter clearly include Ron Liebowitz, who has already been offered the presidency at three comparable institutions. No mystery here: for more than a decade, Liebowitz has been part of highly successful leadership team that has lifted Middlebury to the top ranks of liberal arts colleges in every category.

Casting aspersions on his scholarship, you quote unnamed sources: "Liebowitz has published nothing to speak of." This cavalier dismissal of a score of publications, including three books, articles in top professional journals, book chapters and half a dozen prestigious grants is simply breathtaking. Two of those books we edited together, and the more recent one of them — reviewed as "excellent" — has just been published online. It wouldn't take much investigative reporting to learn that Liebowitz was promoted early for tenure here as the first in his cohort — precisely on the strength of his scholarship and outstanding teaching. Throughout the series of administrative appointments that followed — as Chair of the Department of Geography, Dean of the Faculty and Provost — Liebowitz has been an ardent promoter of scholarship, research and of Middlebury's academic reputation.

In short, had *The Middlebury Campus* done minimal fact-checking, it would have reported that our presidential search process follows standard procedures used by other institutions of our caliber, that the faculty has had ample opportunity to articulate its views, that to attract top candidates, we need to maintain their confidentiality, and that Ron Liebowitz's credentials as a scholar match his strong record of administration and leadership at Middlebury College.

Sincerely,
Michael Kraus
Frederick C. Dirks Professor of Political Science

To the Editor:

Last week *The Middlebury Campus* printed a piece on the Middlebury presidential search, which included a number of assertions about the process, and, more particularly, one of the candidates, Executive Vice President and Provost Ron Liebowitz.

Anonymous attacks on individuals are always ugly, whether in national politics or within our own small community. They are particularly troubling when they contain unsupported insinuations against someone who so many of us know and respect for his openness, honesty and integrity, and for the enormous personal efforts and sacrifices that he has made for Middlebury College.

Perhaps they are best ignored, but when they are attributed to "a member of the administration" and "a senior faculty member," and then disseminated, through *The Campus* to a wide public, they should not be left unanswered.

It is alleged by unnamed sources that the search is a done deal. The descriptions of the search process by Mr. Fritz and other committee members should allay that concern. Nevertheless, the article quotes a "senior member of the faculty" is as saying that "only insiders get the presidency" at Middlebury.

I know of only one insider president in my near half-century of association with the College. That person, of course, is John McCardell, who initially was asked to assume the presidency on an emergency basis. Based on his outstanding performance as an interim president, the Trustees decided not to go outside, as they had in appointing his four predecessors.

An anonymous administrator asserts that Ron Liebowitz, unlike John McCardell, is not a scholar. As someone who works in a related, but different field, I cannot comment all that knowingly on Professor Liebowitz's work on Soviet and Russian demography, but I do feel honored in having authored a chapter in one of his books, and I do know that he was awarded early tenure, prior to his administrative career, because of his exceptional teaching and scholarship.

The anonymous administrator, by the way, says nothing about Liebowitz's ability as a dedicated teacher, something that might be of interest to Middlebury students. Again, my knowledge is a little limited. I can say, in my position as director of Middlebury's Alumni College, that he is the teacher for whom I receive the most student compliments and most requests for return engagements.

There is also the insinuation, again attributed to an anonymous source, that Ron Liebowitz's candidacy is somehow tainted by having turned down offers of presidencies at other institutions. In fact, there were at least three such offers, all by high quality institutions, which ought to tell us something about the quality of our "insider" candidate, not to mention his commitment to the future of Middlebury. But all but the most recent of those offers came well before John McCardell's surprise decision to step down from the presidency. As the intensive schedule of the presidential search committee attests, there was no "done deal."

The Campus reports that about 20 faculty members have signed a petition letter urging the search committee to appoint an outside candidate. There are many reasons why one might prefer a candidate from the outside, including reasons that have nothing to do with Ron Liebowitz, and I respect the opinions of those who signed the petition.

But I also find it remarkable that after the many years that Liebowitz has spent holding politically sensitive senior positions in the academic administration at Middlebury, where tough decisions that create unhappiness are impossible to avoid, only 13 percent of the senior faculty signed the petition.

Finally, there is the larger issue of responsible journalism. Why is *The Campus* publishing an article filled with unsubstantiated insinuations from anonymous sources, insinuations that could not only harm the career of a highly respected member of our community, but also affect the future of the College itself. Who are these people? What is the status of the "member of the administration?"

Even the simplest fact-checking — Liebowitz's public scholarly record, the number of "insiders versus outsiders" among recent presidents — is neglected. The Middlebury College community, as well as Liebowitz, deserve better.

Sincerely,
Russell J. Leng
James Jermain Professor of Polical Economy and International Law

To the Editor:

I was truly appalled by the article on the Presidential search process that appeared in last Thursday's *The Middlebury Campus*. It is full of errors, misleading innuendos and attacks on the search process. At best it was insulting to those on the search committee. At the worst it indulged in character assassination. It implies that prior to the letter submitted by 20 senior members of the faculty that the faculty was not involved in the search process, which is incorrect. There has been every opportunity for the faculty to express its views, and many have done so. The article also implies that the 20 senior faculty members represent a large contingent of the faculty, but that is wrong. As to the "transparency of the search," whatever that means, I would suggest you compare the search process here with that of other private schools. Most have a similar process. As to the time frame, I suggest your reporter compare the time frame of this search with that carried out when Olin Robison announced his resignation. To suggest that the decision was already made for a successor when McCardell announced his resignation is so ludicrous that it isn't worthy of a response. Does any intelligent person really think the search committee has gone through the whole process ("five iterations," according to the committee chair) just for the fun of it? The number of unattributed quotations completely undermines the integrity of the article, as well as the frequent quotes from a "member of the administration." I would put money on the fact that no person in the College's administration said what they were sometimes quoted as saying. Other errors abound. It's false that Liebowitz "has published nothing to speak of," and absolutely wrong to imply that he is not committed to academics. The distinction between an inside versus an outside candidate is totally misleading. There is no magic in an outside candidate, as we certainly learned in the search for a successor to Olin Robison. Liebowitz has been offered other presidencies, so he's not just the nearest warm body "inside" the institution. If he's been offered other presidencies, then he has as much national stature as an "outside" candidate might, especially one who is a dean or a vice-president at another school who has never been offered a college or university presidency. It also is not true that "there seems to be a culture at Middlebury where only insiders get the presidency." Not true. Check the facts. If the 20 senior faculty members want a more open process, they should have proven that by publishing their letter and their names.

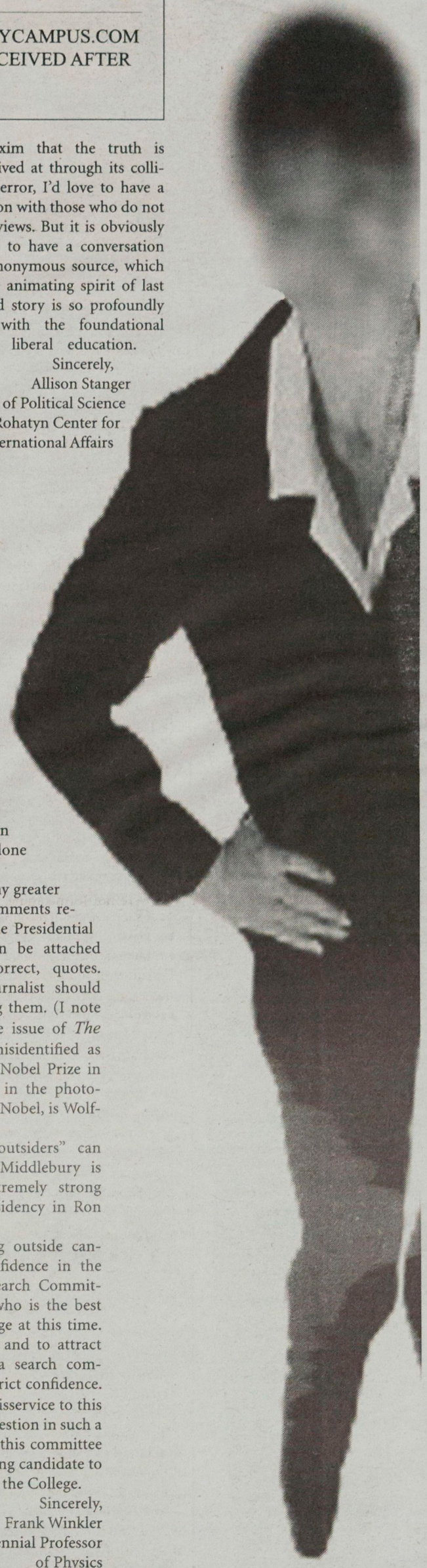
Sincerely,
Ted Perry
Director of the Arts

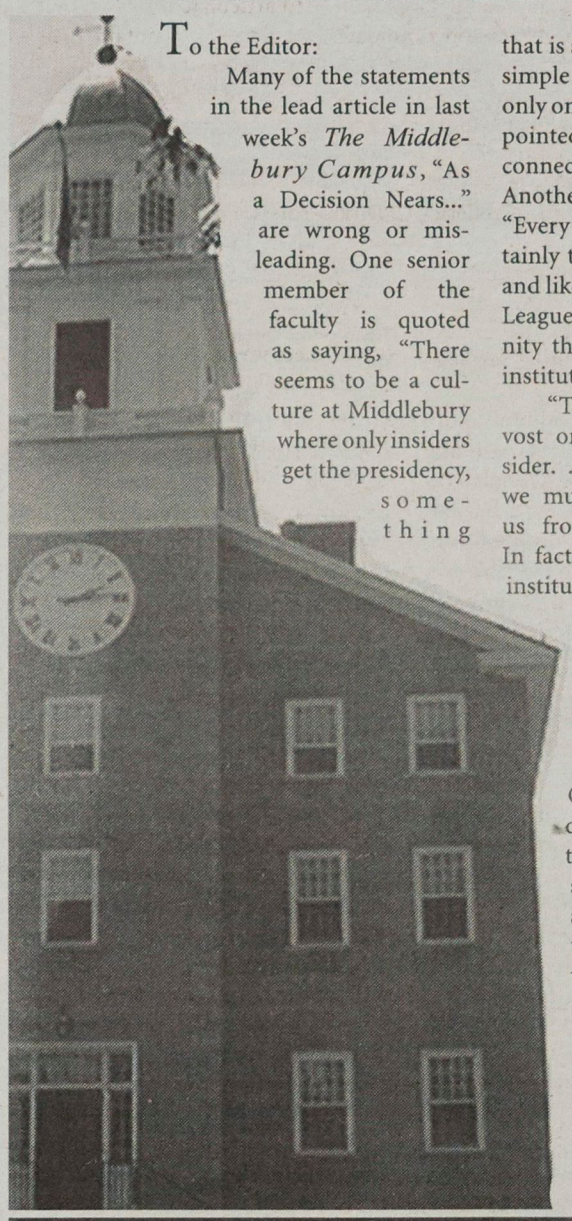
LOG ON TO WWW.MIDDLEBURYCAMPUS.COM FOR PIECES ON THIS TOPIC RECEIVED AFTER THE SUBMISSION DEADLINE.

To the Editor:

I write to express my dismay and disappointment at your unprofessional and ultimately unethical "coverage" of the presidential search last week. You allowed anonymous sources, perhaps no more than two, to drive your article without checking any of the "facts" to which they refused to put their names. Giving anonymous sources a direct voice is always a license for irresponsibility. Why you would grant this license to tenured members of the faculty, who by definition can freely express their views without fear of losing their jobs, is puzzling, to say the least. I have no doubt that the real facts will come out in time, but let me simply state for the record here that it is absurd to assert, as your anonymous administrator did, that Ron Liebowitz has no vision for the College's future. I direct the Rohatyn Center for International Affairs, now a vibrant hub of internationally oriented intellectual activity. The Center and its programs would have never become reality without Ron Liebowitz's abiding support, commitment and vision. As a firm believer in John Stuart Mill's maxim that the truth is always arrived at through its collision with error, I'd love to have a conversation with those who do not share my views. But it is obviously impossible to have a conversation with an anonymous source, which is why the animating spirit of last week's lead story is so profoundly at odds with the foundational values of liberal education.

Sincerely,
Allison Stanger
Professor of Political Science
Director, Rohatyn Center for International Affairs





To the Editor:

Many of the statements in the lead article in last week's *The Middlebury Campus*, "As a Decision Nears..." are wrong or misleading. One senior member of the faculty is quoted as saying, "There seems to be a culture at Middlebury where only insiders get the presidency, something that is suspicious about outsiders." In fact, a simple check of their biographies reveals that only one of the six Middlebury presidents appointed since World War I had any previous connection to the College: John McCardell. Another faculty member is quoted as saying, "Every serious academic institution, certainly those to whom we compare ourselves and like whom we would like to be — the Ivy League schools — understand the opportunity that a presidential search brings to an institution."

"They never choose a sitting provost or dean, they always choose an outsider. ... If we want to be taken seriously we must have a president who comes to us from a highly reputable institution." In fact, there are myriad examples of elite institutions choosing presidents both from within their own ranks and from outside. There is no one right way.

While not researching this question thoroughly, I have checked several presidents of Harvard University, where I did my own graduate work. Of the five most recent Harvard presidents, all had some previous connection with that University. Four had served as Harvard faculty members and/or administrators, and two of these were at Harvard when they were tapped for the presidency: Derek Bok was Dean of the Harvard Law School when chosen as president in 1971. James Bryant Conant had spent his entire career at Harvard, as undergraduate, graduate student, and professor of chemistry, before he was appointed president in 1933. Either the faculty members quoted in the article have been misquoted, or they have not done their homework.

I see no reason to give any greater credibility to the carping comments regarding Ron Liebowitz or the Presidential Search Committee than can be attached to the above, clearly incorrect, quotes. Furthermore, any good journalist should check facts before publishing them. (I note in passing that in this same issue of *The Campus* a photograph is misidentified as Ken Davis '90, who "won a Nobel Prize in physics." In fact, the person in the photograph, and the winner of the Nobel, is Wolfgang Ketterle of M.I.T.)

Both "insiders" and "outsiders" can make excellent presidents. Middlebury is fortunate to have one extremely strong inside candidate for its presidency in Ron Liebowitz.

I hope there are strong outside candidates as well. I have confidence in the men and women on the Search Committee to select the candidate who is the best match for Middlebury College at this time. In order to work effectively and to attract strong outside candidates, a search committee must do its work in strict confidence. *The Campus* article does a disservice to this community in calling into question in such a shoddy manner the work of this committee or the qualifications of a strong candidate to become the next president of the College.

Sincerely,
Frank Winkler
Gamaliel Painter Bicentennial Professor of Physics

...to Presidential Search Coverage

features

16
LISTENING IN
KERRY ON THE TRAIL AND ON THE PHONE

16
THE GREED SEED
EXPLORING RUINS OF INSIDER CORRUPTION

17
BENEFICIAL BACTERIA
KEEPING CLEAN BY GETTING DIRTY

18
YARBROUGH'S PASSION
PROFESSOR BRINGS MORE THAN BREAD AND FISH TO TABLE

Kerry dials 'college' for votes

By Polly Johnson
Staff Writer

Democratic presidential nominee John Kerry plans to rally college-age voters with his 2004 "Change Starts with U Campus Tour," which kicked off on Monday, April 12. In a speech at the University of New Hampshire that day, Kerry rallied students by proclaiming, "You can build a better America. You can bring back hope. You can shape your future. You can make history." It is this spirit that Kerry hopes to encourage as he continues to build support from college students.

On Tuesday, Kerry conducted a conference call for college newspaper reporters, an opportunity for him to "discuss issues important to America's youth, his vision for the country, and his challenge to the next generation of Americans to invest themselves in their communities." Kerry began the call with opening remarks, specifically discussing the importance of college tuition, a major platform of his campaign. As a result of the inflation-adjusted 28 percent increase this year, "220,000 young people have been priced out of college," he said.

The current administration, Kerry noted, "has made its own fundamental choice by cutting taxes for the wealthy Americans [...] In effect, Bush's tax cut for the wealthy is a tuition increase for students." Kerry discussed his plan to provide aid to students who cannot afford to attend college with a $25 billion proposal that will try to fix the problems plaguing higher education institutions. He attributes the increasing cost of tuition to Bush's tax policies, also noting that the extent of the tax cuts is even more far-reaching than tuition, "They cut aid to states because they are receiving less money from the federal government," he said.

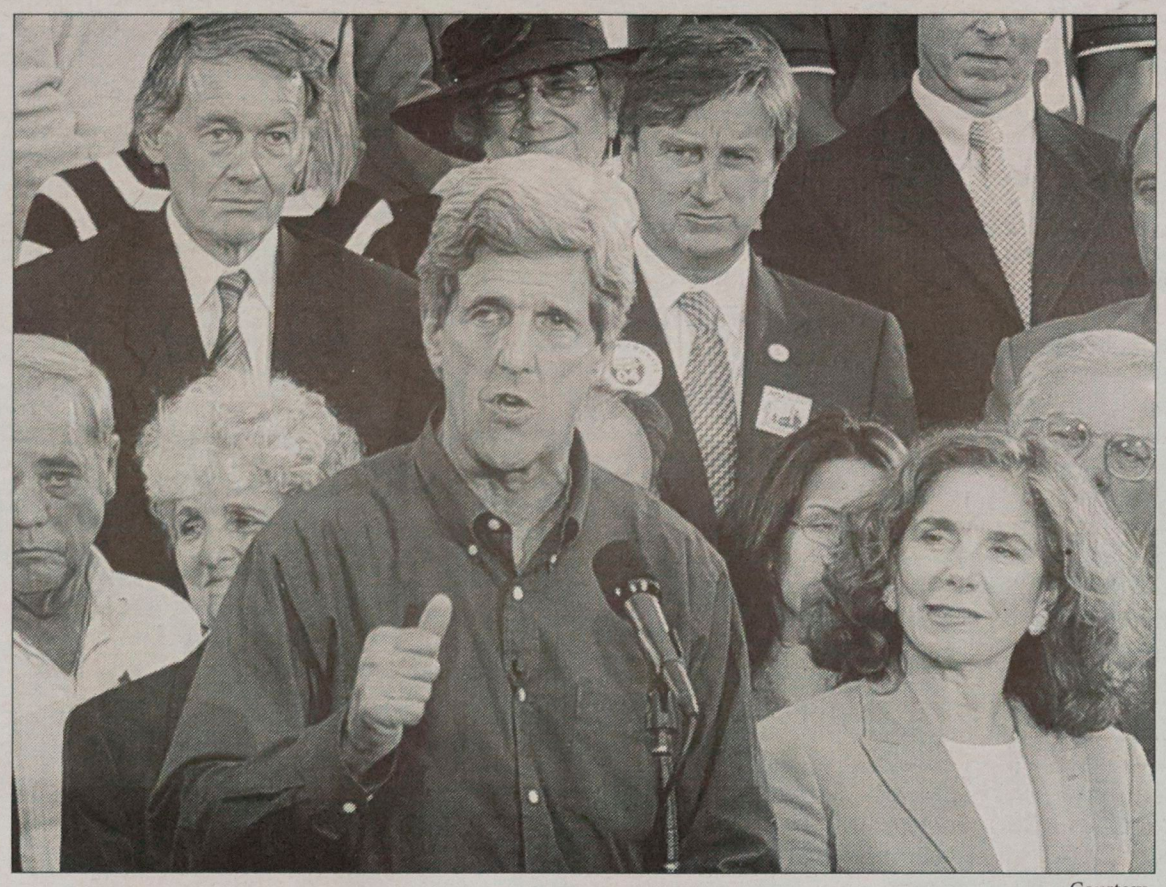
Once again, Kerry stressed the importance of student input and power in shaping the outcome of the election. "Young people have enormous power, they need to embrace it and go out and use it...During the 60s and 70s it was the young people who drove the civil rights movement and the environmental movement."

He blames the problems of current policy on the powerful politicians who use their money to gain power, noting, "If everyone walks away, we are empowering the people who have money and who spend it in the political system without opposition. We go backwards in policy, because powerful forces with money get the power. Young people need to get back the political force in America."

During the conference call, some of the participants were allowed to ask Senator Kerry one question. Students presented questions pertaining to Social Security, fiscal responsibility, health care and the military. "If you serve in the military, you ought to get the benefits of college education assistance. In exchange for two years of local service, we will pay for four years of college," he promised.

The last question touched on Kerry's policies affecting college students once they graduate. He plans to create "a health care plan for all Americans that will be accessible and affordable." He spoke most strongly about his desire to create millions of jobs for students upon college graduation. "I will create jobs for when people get out of college — 10 million new jobs over the course of the next four years will be created, the kind of high technology, high end, high paying jobs that people need."

Chris Shields '04 has worked on the Kerry campaign for the last year and is an avid supporter of Kerry's plans for creating college affordability and of restructuring the economic problems that Bush has created. He noted that Kerry's platform is centered on "giving back to the country." Kerry's college tour sends a strong message to inspire students not only to vote, but to become active citizens with a say in the future of politics. Kerry will visit City College of New York City and University of Pittsburgh as part of the tour this week.



Courtesy
Presidential candidate John Kerry on the stump. His recent campaign efforts have focused on younger voters.

Young people have enormous power, they need to embrace it and go out and use it.

— John Kerry

Author spins tale of corporate greed

By Lynn Gray
Staff Writer

On Thursday, April 8, a large group of Middlebury students and community members gathered to hear a revealing panel discussion entitled "How Insider Greed Threatens Great Companies: The Waksal-Stewart Saga." The forum was held in honor of David K. Smith, who is credited with transforming Middlebury's Economics Department during the 38 years he served as Professor of Economics. Panelists included Peter Kinder, co-founder of KLD Research and Analytics, and headliner Alex Prud'homme '84, author of "The Cell Game." Prud'homme reviewed his book's fast and furious tale of Sam Waksal's disastrous race towards fame and fortune as the lead advocate of ImClone System's revolutionary cancer drug, Erbitux. Kinder then analyzed the problematic management systems used by corporations.

Several years ago Prud'homme began searching for a contemporary biotechnology story and was soon hooked by Waksal's frenetic drive to create the kind of products that would fight diseases while generating the capital necessary for him to retire early. Waksal had taken Erbitux under his wing and was promoting it as the drug that would change the face of oncology. He convinced some of the nation's biggest investors and entrepreneurs, including Martha Stewart, to invest in ImClone's development of this cutting-edge drug.

Prud'homme first interviewed Waksal in 2001, right after ImClone had completed a multi-million dollar deal with Bristol-Myers Squibb. Waksal was "on top of the world," recalls Prud'homme, and eager to talk about his entrepreneurial ventures. Prud'homme was quickly invited into Waksal's magical world of elaborate parties and bountiful optimism, yet the writer soon began to see an underlying theme of falsehood in Waksal's treatment of biotechnology, oncology, facts and the law.

After doing some preliminary background checks, Prud'homme discovered that Waksal had a history of spinning elaborate lies and had been kicked out of numerous renowned laboratories. But the buoyant character maintained his fatal ability to "block out the negative and focus only on the positive," explained Prud'homme.

Near the end of 2001 Waksal received the news that the FDA had rejected Erbitux because the scientific data supplied by ImClone appeared sloppy and flawed. Waksal panicked and decided to sell his ImClone stock before Wall Street received the catastrophic information. In the process, he tipped off a group of family members and friends who were fellow investors. Soon after, Prud'homme received a desperate phone call from Waksal, who attempted to save his reputation by repeatedly extolling the merits of Erbitux. Right before Stewart's name came into the picture, *Vanity Fair* picked up on Prud'homme's story and the insider trading scandal soon began to unfold.

Peter Kinder followed up Prud'homme's presentation with an analysis of possible solutions to the rampant problem of business fraud. He asked the question "Were there warning signs [regarding ImClone's corrupt management] that people like me should have picked up on?" The fact is that the board managing ImClone was "absolutely typical." Kinder explained that corporation fraud is the result of internal structural problems. He believes that boards succumb to sloppy accounting practices and loose ethical decision making as a result of natural human dynamics. Board members become friendly with each other and want to maximize their mutual economic interests, said Kinder.

Kinder concluded, "Looking to boards is simply unwise. There needs to be much more direct liability on management to affect corporate reforms." As a result of ImClone's fraudulent practices, dying cancer patients were denied the use of Erbitux, which in many cases was their only hope at life. Ironically, as Waksal and Stewart's prison sentences are being worked out, Erbitux continues to be a bright star in the field of oncology. Thus, Kinder's sentiments prove exceptionally poignant. "There is a fine line between entrepreneurship and greed."

Antibacterial awareness grows on spotless student body

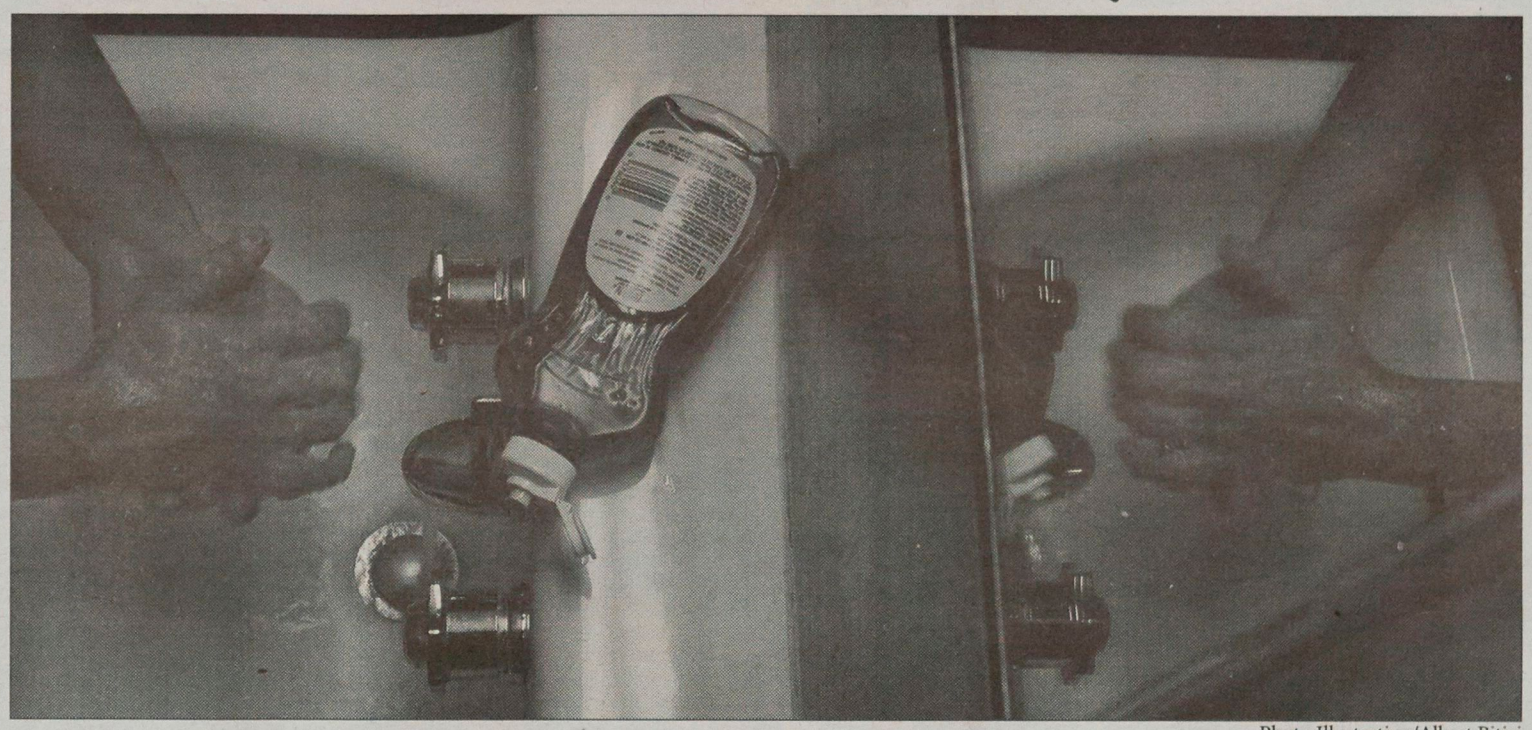


Photo Illustration/Albert Bitici

By Abbie Beane

Features Editor

For all you "Seinfeldian" germaphobes out there, this one's for you. Just when you thought you were safe hiding behind eight bottles of Lysol, five cans of Basin Tub and Tile Cleaner and one large crate of antibacterial hand soaps and lotions, up pops the most formidable strain of all — the hygiene hypothesis, proposed in 1989 by David Strachan. Within the last decade in the professional medical world, and just recently in the College's biology department, scientists have been discovering that not only is a little dirt good for your health, but more particularly, the ingredients in antibacterial products, namely triclosan, are not only ineffective, but also may build premature resistance to certain antibiotics, as well as cause eczema, allergies and asthma in some people.

The message, however, has been slow to take hold in the larger part of the population. Not only are antibacterial hand soaps and lotions all the rage, even antibacterial food storage plastics and antibacterial underwear are becoming popular — these last two containing Microban. And how about toothpastes to avoid? That's right, triclosan can also be found in mouthwash, Crest Complete and Colgate Total, both sold at the drugstores in town and at MiddXpress. The hand soaps at the College, however, are not triclosan based and contain low levels of antibacterial agents, only to keep bacteria from growing in the soap itself.

The Science of the "Anti" Bacteria

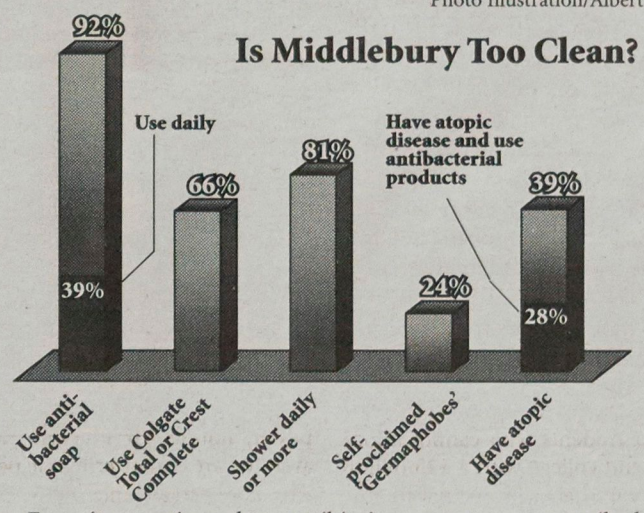
In a recent effort to test this hypothesis and spread awareness about triclosan-based products, students in "Genetics and Evolution" have been conducting a number of laboratory experiments where they expose bacteria to triclosan — concentrated on a filter paper in the center of a Petri dish — to see if the bacteria population in the dish can develop resistance to the antibiotic. Tests have shown that during the first round of the experiment the bacteria are only able to live near the outer limits of the dish, yet each subsequent time they are exposed, they can live progressively closer to the source of triclosan as they build up resistance quickly to this "antibacterial" chemical.

Of the bacteria being tested, *E.coli* builds resistance the fastest, while the skin bacteria *S.opidermidis* takes a bit longer to resist the triclosan, although studies on skin bacteria have not yet been published and the two species have different generation times. By over-cleaning ourselves and our environment, we are failing to routinely challenge our immune systems, thus preventing them from developing and maturing. As a result they may respond inappropriately to allergens. Overzealous cleaning itself has been blamed for such atopic diseases as asthma, eczema and allergies — not to mention the triclosan-based antibacterial products, which have also promoted an undesired resistance to certain antibiotics.

According to Vickie Backus, the associate in science instruction currently working on the triclosan testing project, many students show that children who do not attend daycare or are home-schooled, have less exposure to germs and therefore have weaker immune systems and develop more atopic diseases than their peers. According to Stuart B. Levy, researcher for the Center for Adaptation Genetics and Drug Resistance at the Tufts University School of Medicine, some infants begin to receive antibiotics as soon as a few days after birth. "They mature in an antibiotic-laden environment. What antigens do they confront daily? What kind of immune response are they developing?" Along the same lines, urban settings, which are known to have mostly buildings using filtered air, are more apt to hinder immune system development.

The Main Issues

Essentially, says Backus, there are two main problems with using antibacterial products. One is that people become more slack in hygiene, thinking that because they are using antibacterial soap, it isn't necessary to wash as thoroughly. The second issue is that some of the bacteria resistant to triclosan are also resistant to certain antibiotic drugs, one being an anti-tuberculosis medication called Isoniazid, which is one of the frontline



drugs. Even, in countires where antibiotics are not over-prescribed — in order to prevent bacteria from building up a premature resistance to them — you can still buy antibacterial products over the counter as frequently as you like.

Another immediate global problem caused by triclosan is currently being felt in Sweden. According to Backus, traces of triclosan are now surfacing in water supplies and even in breast milk. Although scientists have found no negative health consequences to the human body thus far, thorough studies have not actually been conducted yet. It is however known that triclosan can kill single cell dividing cells, dropping plankton levels and thereby decreasing fish food sources considerably. As a result, the fish population continues to decline. Backus believes this contamination originates from homes, as opposed to industrial sources, where Europe uses far more triclosan-based products than the United States.

Middlebury Under the Microscope

But what about the College? According to a survey conducted using 100 students chosen at random in Ross Dining Hall, 39 percent profess to using antibacterial soaps daily, while 92 percent use them at least sometimes. Furthermore, 66 percent use Colgate Total or Crest Complete at least some of the time. As for showering, which most students are glad to see their peers doing, 81 percent shower daily or more than once per day. On the other hand, only 29 percent of students admit to having a "special obsession with cleaning products," while 24 percent claim to be "germaphobes."

While 39 percent of students claimed to have at least one atopic disease — eczema, asthma or allergies — 71 percent of these students were some of the cleanest surveyed, including those who use antibacterial products daily and shower frequently, and many who professed to being "germaphobes." However, it is also true that several of the hygienically fastidious did not admit to having an atopic disease.

Evidently, there are many facts and sources to consider other than the hygiene hypothesis when researching the causes of atopic diseases. Yet this does not change the fact that basting ourselves with antibacterial products is giving us a false sense of security. As Consultant in Scientific Issues John Pickup concurs, "Our obsession with cleanliness could be costing us our health." Safe sanitation is being taken to the extreme, with a cleaning product for every surface.

"We exist in the bacterial world," says Levy, "not bacteria in ours. We should make peace with them. Although we need to control pathogens when they cause disease, we do not have to engage in a full-fledged war against the microbial world. Improved antibiotic use, including shorter treatments and the removal of improper usage, will encourage the return of antibiotic-susceptible, commensal flora and return the environment to what it was before the antibiotic/antibacterial onslaught."

"Bacteria are sluts," concludes Backus. "They share genes between individuals of the same and different species and they transfer resistance. Therefore, we think we're keeping clean by using so many antibacterial cleaning products, when really we're not allowing our bodies to build resistance to disease."

POPROCKS

BY LANFORD BEARD

Folk you, Carson Kressley! Brian, Justin and the rest of the *real* queers return this weekend for the fourth season of Showtime's "Queer As Folk."

The show centers on five gay men and their friends, family and lovers in the booming metropolis of Pittsburgh — the concept is almost as hot as a show about trannies in Burlington, but I guess that idea was already taken (probably by Bravo, the soon-to-be-official "Gayest Network on Television").

If nothing else, this "groundbreaking" series (and all the subsequent reality follow-ups like "Boy Meets Boy" and "Playing It Straight") has proven that the only mode of televised storytelling that can do justice to gays is the fantastical and gratuitous.

What's the secret? Honestly?

Softcore porn.

Like its network counterpart "Will and Grace," the show is a blend of comedy, flamboyance and clichés with a dash of dramatic weight. Unlike "Will and Grace," the characters are allowed to pair off at the end of the night, and we as viewers are invited into their blue-lit bedrooms.

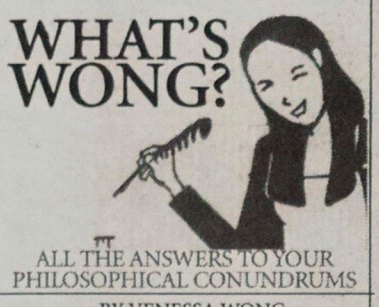
The series has generally orbited around the relationship between Liberty Avenue lothario Brian Kinney and his younger lover Justin Taylor. In particular, Brian has transitioned from initially being predatory to now accepting monogamy, selfless generosity and political awareness.

As the GLAAD media awards and a bevy of cultural critics have recognized, the show's most powerful tool is actually its bold political consciousness amidst unmitigated extravagance and debauchery.

For example, the heart-rending first season finale featured a classmate gay bashing Justin for taking Brian to senior prom. The second season then followed the unjust light sentencing of the classmate, proving that the reality of judicial decisions about the "ambiguous" nature of hate crimes is still far behind the times. More recent episodes have covered gay marriage, gay couples' rights (or lack thereof) to adopt and raise children, the affliction of drug use in the gay community and politically sanctioned bigotry.

More than anything, however, the show expresses a self-consciously flip sense of humor about gay stereotypes. As a top advertising executive, Brian uses transparent innuendos in his campaigns. While these ads appear to exploit the gay capitalist niche, the overwhelming success of Brian's campaigns in the hetero world holds a striking parallel in this age when a complex and evolving media relationship exists between gays and straights.

So, now that "America's Next Top Model" has ended and Tuesday is losing its stranglehold on the title of "Gayest Night on Television," step away from reality and toward fantasy with the help of these queers. This is no make-better show, but it will make you laugh, cry and snap with the best of 'em.



BY VENESSA WONG

The word "conservative" is often imbued with negative connotations — rigidity, obsolescence, inapplicability, to name of few. The rebellious nature of American youth seems to incline them towards change and reform. They distrust traditional values and constantly search for something better, or at least new. They may, however, be overlooking some positive qualities that conservatism embodies.

First, consider this definition by Michael Oakeshott: To be conservative is to have a propensity to "use and enjoy what is available rather than to wish or to look for something else — to delight in what is present rather what was or may be[…]. What is esteemed is the present; and it is not esteemed on account of its connections with a remote antiquity, but on account of its familiarity." The "conservative man" is comfortable in the present. He prefers the familiar to the unknown and the actual to the possible. He finds difficulty handling change, which he sees as "a threat to identity, and an emblem of extinction."

Raime Masket-Roth '04 avidly stated that he is "not at all [conservative]." For him, the word connotes "Republican, not liberal, intolerant, old-fashioned, unwilling to try new things [such as] food, drugs, activities, places, music." Pursuing change is extremely important, he says, because "[T]here is so much wrong with the world."

According to Michael Lin '05, "The benefit to be inclined to those things that are familiar to us is the security it gives, [but] I do not consider myself a conservative. I believe society and the age we live in should change in concert. Holding on to outdated values seems foolish because they do not apply anymore, plus it may actually hinder growth."

Tara Vanacore '06 doesn't consider herself conservative either, but she "values tradition and understands the desire to hold onto the familiar." She said, "When I hear the word 'conservative' I think of traditional thought. This does not necessarily have a negative connotation. It is natural to want to hold onto the past, and in [cultural and familial] contexts, preserving tradition is beneficial. [Yet] it is important to try to understand and tolerate change in society even if you do not agree with it yourself."

Tabitha Connor '05, on the other hand, considers herself conservative. "I am optimistic — I believe in change as a positive force when applied logically [and] when it is a means to an end, rather than a goal in and of itself. I think that there is causality between that level of happiness and conservatism, which might begin with optimism and satisfaction, leading to a desire to maintain the status quo."

When considering conservatism then, the conclusions one reaches reveal much about where one seeks satisfaction — either in the established or in the unborn.

Yarbrough: our academic shepherd

By Amanda Goodwin
Staff Writer

Under Pardon Tilinghast Professor of Religion Larry Yarbrough's leadership, the Middlebury's Religion Department has experienced its highest enrollment and interest levels to date, boasting more majors than ever before. While Yarbrough will yield the chairmanship of the department to colleague William Waldron for the 2004-2005 school year, his success and innovation will remain a cornerstone of the department.

In addition to spreading his passion for the New Testament and Early Christianity to an increasing number of students, Yarbrough has spent considerable time researching and developing departmental courses and programs to further expand the Middlebury Religion curriculum.

Yarbrough's more notable projects include the creation of a course focusing on the development of Christianity, an analysis of Mel Gibson's "The Passion of the Christ" and research concerning the role of marriage and family in early Christian as well as Jewish and Greco-Roman households.

In focusing his seminar on the film's material, Yarbrough builds upon his panel presentation at last week's "The Passion of the Christ" campus-wide discussion, in which he lectured on the contextual basis of the film's themes.

Yarbrough's vision for the developmental Christianity course has come to fruition through extensive research and travel. In addition to heavily researching the subject, he has visited archaeological sites, including ones in Istanbul and greater Turkey — primary locations of early Christianity. He has also studied the relationship between Istanbul and Venice, focusing on mosaics and early Christian art.

Vlad Lodoaba
Professor of Religion Larrry Yarbrough is a biblical bibliophile. He plans on incorporating Mel Gibson's recent film into a freshman seminar.

Yarbrough will also continue to expand his interest in "The Passion of the Christ" by teaching a fall first-year seminar entitled, "The Passion and its Legacy." Students will spend a significant part of the course looking at the text of the New Testament, its accompanying gospels and varying accounts. A book of gospel parallels will be employed, lining up the gospels to allow for phrase-by-phrase comparisons. Moreover, the film and its subject material will be studied within the context of its influence on Christianity — specifically, through the mediums of literature, music, art, drama and film, as learned from primary sources and lectures by Yarbrough's colleagues in the History of Art and Music Departments."I hope this course and its guest lectures will give students a broad sense of how this story has been influential," said Yarbrough.

"I am excited about the excellent group of teachers, scholars and human beings in the Religion Department, and I am excited about how the Religion Department faculty has formed close ties with other College programs, including cross-listing courses with International Studies, Women's Studies, Environmental Studies, Classics and East Asian studies, among other departments and disciplines."

Yarbrough also expressed enthusiasm for next week's second annual dinner and presentation honoring the submission of senior projects, as well as the annual J-Term Scott Symposium, which celebrates the merging of religion and arts with various cultures and eras. "Our purpose is to view religion within the worldwide context," said Yarbrough.

In addition to teaching courses as a tenured professor of the Religion Department, Yarbrough has participated in the Educational Affairs Committee, Community Council, Promotion Committee and Presidential Search Committee.

Waldron, Yarbrough's succesor as the Chair of the Religion Department, said, "Yarbrough has been able to bring together, in the wake of the virtual evacuation of the Religion Department some years back, an energetic new group of talented young — and bold — scholars who will continue to make the Religion Department one of the exciting, and most timely, areas of our academy."

CAUGHT IN THE ACT

Vlad Lodoaba
A member of Middlebury's squirrel population holds still for a dead-on shot — of the photographic kind.

WINNERS & LOSERS

What's hot and what's not on campus and in pop culture? *The Campus* gives its weekly report.

NEWSPAPERS	NEWSPAPERS
THE PERFECT EXCUSE FOR BEING ANTI-SOCIAL AT BREAKFAST. THE SGA IS HOTTER THAN THE PANINI GRILL RIGHT NOW.	RANDOM PAGES OF USA TODAY SEEN BLOWING IN THE WIND. CONVERSATION STILL BETTER THAN MEMORIZING MALI'S EXCHANGE RATE.
LAWN ACTIVITIES	THESIS DEADLINES
SPUR OF THE MOMENT FRISBEE AND WIFFLEBALL GAMES ANNOUNCE THE ARRIVAL OF SPRING MORE THAN BUDS ON THE TREES.	NOTHING LIKE WATCHING PEOPLE HAVING FUN FROM A LIBRARY WINDOW.
UPCOMING CONCERTS	ZOO
STICK AROUND THE NEXT COUPLE WEEKENDS. SEPOMANA KICKS OFF ON FRIDAY FOLLOWED BY BELA FLECK THE NEXT WEEKEND.	STILL HOMELESS. KEEP WATCHING "ANIMAL HOUSE" AND IMAGINE WHAT ONCE WAS.

Thursdays at the Museum 8:00–11:00 P.M.

museum UNPLUGGED

A Coffeehouse-style event with live performances, late-night museum hours, and refreshments at Rehearsals Cafe

March 4	Penny Chen and Friends, *bossa nova*
March 11	Beth and Nick Kaiser, *folk*
March 18	chill b, *acoustic rock*
April 1	Student String Quartet, *classical*
April 8	Abe Streep and Ben Campbell, *bluegrass*
April 15	Mischords *and* Stuck in the Middle, *a capella*
April 22	Funky Jakata, *roots rock*
April 29	Dick Forman and Students, *jazz*

FREE!

Sponsored by the Middlebury College Museum of Art and The Arts at Middlebury College
802-443-MIDD www.middlebury.edu/arts

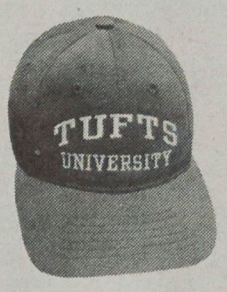
The Middlebury Campus seeks

COPY EDITORS (PAID POSITION)

e-mail campus@middlebury.edu

2004 A Course for Everyone

TUFTS SUMMER



Courses in the Fall not working out according to plan?

Check out our Summer opportunities!

Tufts Summer Session 2004

First Session: May 26–July 2
Second Session: July 6 –August 13
12 Week Session: May 26–August 13

Consider Summer Study at Tufts University

http://ase.tufts.edu/summer

The Middlebury Campus seeks

SPORTS DEPARTMENT

REPORTERS

TO COVER SPRING VARSITY AND CLUB SPORTS

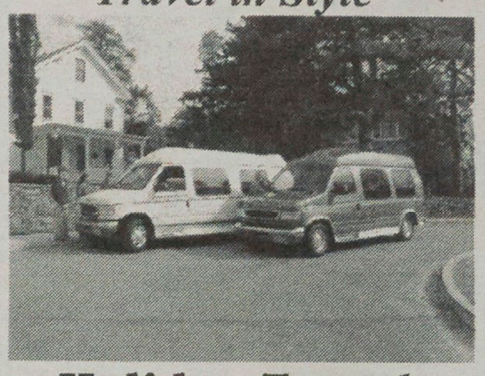
(POSITIONS MUST BE FILLED IMMEDIATELY.)

E-MAIL CAMPUS@MIDDLEBURY.EDU FOR INFORMATION

MT MIDDLEBURY TRANSIT

Personalized Regional Transportation

Travel in Style



Holiday Travel
Airport – Amtrak Station
Transportation
Call for Rates and Reservations
388-3838
800-388-1002
www.middleburytransit.com

Open 10-9 Sun.-Thurs.
Fri. & Sat. 10-9:30
Middlebury
388-2036

NEW MOVIES
Kill Bill: Vol. 1
Timeline
Dopamine
The Matrix Revolutions
Cheaper by the Dozen
House of Sand and Fog
Something's Gotta Give
Shattered Glass
Brother Bear

arts

20
SUE REES' INSTALLATION ART
BUT WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

21
'ONE WAY MIRROR'
SHATTERING NOTIONS OF WHAT IS HEARD IN THE ZOO

22
LANGUAGE BARRIERS FALL
STUDENT THESPIANS BRING FRENCH PLAY TO LIFE

23
EMBRACE THE GROTESQUE
AN EXPLORATION OF MAY MANTELL'S WORK

24
PJ WALSH COMEDY SHOW
FLATULENCE, SEX AND STEREOTYPES

25
LISTEN CLEARLY
THE SOUNDS OF CLEARLAKE TOUCH THE MUSICAL SOUL

26
VACA
MAKING ART VISIBLE AND VITAL ON CAMPUS

The absurd flavor of Rees' piece

By Joyce Man
Staff Writer

In a time when the Tate Gallery pays 22,300 British pounds for Piero Manzoni's feces and the National Portrait Gallery displays framed DNA bacteria colonies for admiration, it helps to have a definition of what art really is.

Very often, what determines the difference between art and fart is the creator's intent — a pile of bricks became art when it was revealed as a reflection of Carl André's temperament, and a ruffled condom-riddled bed became a provocative object when Tracey Emins pronounced it an articulation of her sluttish personality. Art stimulates aesthetic pleasure, and what is pleasing about these collections of meaningless objects is the expression behind them.

It is incredibly frustrating, then, to be unable to define Sue Rees' recent installation in the CFA as art. Because no matter how balanced the composition, how striking the color or how closely the lifeless forms parallel René Magritte's surrealist paintings, when asked about its meaning, Rees draws a blank.

Put up last week in the Center for the Arts Dance Theatre, the installation-cum-stage set served as the backdrop for two other attractions — an improvisational dance sequence by the four members of The Architects and clarinetist David Rothenberg. Rees, a sculptor on the faculty at Bennington College, designed and built the colorful and kinetically vibrant set.

The piece can be broken down into three sections. To the left, a clothesline of electrifyingly colorful skirts hangs parallel to a skewed, live-feed video of the rest of the room. At center stage stands a line of three wooden tables accompanied by eerily empty hanging black tuxedos connected to wooden chairs. To the right lies a panel of floating white muslin cloth.

Last week, dancers and music brought the space to life. Sadly, however, one cannot escape the annoying fact that not only does the piece reveal little about its creator or her motivation, but it also does not have a name. Of course, a rose by any other name would smell just as sweet, and if we were talking about anything but art, it would be easy to agree. But this is art, and art by any other name simply cannot be art — the laxity of its current definition threatens to throw it into a void.

When, at a lunchtime discussion, Rees was asked the basic question of "So what does it all mean?" she remained silent before bouncing the question back to the audience and then concluding later, "I guess I was trying to explore the manipulation of objects."

Fair enough, considering that onstage at that very moment, two dancers were fighting rather violently and comically with a tablecloth, possibly as a deep artistic expression of war or internal conflict, but far more likely in a futile attempt to do something — anything — to manipulate the space in a creative manner. In short, the whole ensemble resembled art.

If Rees' lunchtime discussion revealed little of her motivation, her artistic statement might possibly have elevated her piece to a higher meaning.

Albert Bitici
Sue Rees' installation art space also served as the set for an improvisational dance performance by four members of The Architects.

Having focused primarily on the sciences in high school, Rees continued to explore elements of space and the physics of matter and energy as an undergraduate student and later as a set designer. "My interest in science appears in my work in the form of electric impulses, mechanized movements [and] sensor detector [. . .] Mechanisms are used to alter the dynamics and image of an object, thereby changing its original function and adding a touch of absurdity to it."

Rees' installation, then, is an exploration of physics and kinetics — it is an assertion of "the state of constant effervescence." This she executes masterfully. The empty suits are orifices of man-made bodies, at once suggesting the presence and absence of physical matter within the visible jackets.

The image looks like an unmistakable reference to the black suit and bowler hat, a signature of the surrealist movement. The surrealist movement occured when Einstein's theory of time travel, kinetics and vehicular movement were attracting interest. Rees creates a powerful parallel to René Magritte's "Golconde" and "The Menaced Assassin," mystery paintings which, by generating psychological thought and mental movement, evoke two metaphors for the kinetic physical science that so interests Rees.

Sadly, none of this is explained, and viewers can only interpret for themselves what Rees might be trying to say. As a vehicle of communication, Rees' piece fails, leaving her audience with a provocative art piece whose meaning is malleable, indefinite and absurd.

This seemed to be the predominant theme of the dance piece that took place in the installation — The Architects presented us with a long, fragmented narration using weak and imprecise body movements. Their message was unclear. A cacophony of chair banging, random hissing and shouts of "She's right!" is recipe for instant laughter and confusion.

The most memorable part was the moment when the dancers twisted through the white muslin cloth and crawled on all fours toward the audience. I gave up my futile attempt at understanding this performance, and I thought perhaps that it didn't have to mean anything. It is frustrating to find absurdity in this installation, because it is obvious that Rees has the technical expertise, conceptual understanding and aesthetic eye to create incredibly striking images.

She demonstrated great innovation in projecting a live, slightly delayed feed of stage action onto the curved left wall, creating a two-dimensional replica of a three-dimensional world in the form of a distorted, phantasmal image.

In her defense, Rees' focus is on stage sets, not fine art. And indeed, as a set, her composition evokes all the spatial balance and chromatic pleasures that an audience craves. The multiple projections and the fluid yet substantial screen of muslin are drenched in enough historical connotation to compel the audience into a search for profound meaning. But where exactly is that meaning? And what is it? Some artwork just cries out for an accompanying manifesto.

Vlad Lodoaba

Written and composed by Will Cleveland '04 (right), 'One Way Mirror' brought the audience to its feet last weekend in the Zoo.

'One Way Mirror' reflects skill

By Laura Rockefeller
Staff Writer

This year has seen the advent of live music performances in the Hepburn Zoo Theater, starting with "Cowboy Mouth" in the fall and continuing this semester with "The Rocky Horror Show," and, finally, last weekend's production of "One Way Mirror."

"One Way Mirror" was a rock opera composed and written by Will Cleveland '04 as his English and Music creative thesis.

Many audience members arrived at the Zoo not really knowing what to expect, but the enthusiastic cheers at the end of the night were a sure sign that Cleveland's compositions made quite an impression.

From the first evocative notes on the electric piano while the space was still in darkness to the intense drum beats and frantic guitar duets of some of the later pieces, the compositions grabbed the audience's attention and imaginations and did not let go.

Lead vocalist Sara Stranovsky '05 both looked stunning in her tight-fitting red dress and gave a spectacular performance that elicited cheers and applause from the audience throughout the night.

Her deep, rich voice moved fluently from the slower reflective pieces to the louder upbeat songs.

She succeeded where many singers might have been overwhelmed by the power of the guitars, drums and electric piano.

The atmosphere of the whole show was very different from what one expects at a show in the Zoo.

When people came into the large empty space at the beginning of the evening they clumped together uncertainly, some standing to chat and others sitting along the walls. A few people even lay down.

The crowd was initially a small but very enthusiastic one. However, as the evening continued, the audience began to grow and the music began to draw people out of their seats.

At first only two or three brave souls were willing to stand up and dance, but by the end of the concert there was almost no one who could resist the intoxicating pull of the music.

By the conclusion of the final song everyone was on their feet responding to the beat of the music and cheering the performers eagerly.

All the musicians had a moment to shine, performing their solos skillfully and with clear enjoyment that could not help but infect their listeners and their fellow performers on stage.

Even when different colored spotlights highlighted a single performer, the ever-present smiles and the blend of instruments attested to the fact that this was a group who really enjoyed performing together.

The show was entertaining in every aspect — the performance was dynamic, and the audience was enthusiastic and energetic. If the excited reaction of the Zoo audience to Cleveland's performance and his music is anything to go by, we will be hearing his name and his compositions a great deal in the future.

Vlad Lodoaba

Sara Stranovksy '05 adapted her voice as well to the opera's faster, beat-driven songs as to its slower, smoother pieces.

BLOWIN' INDIE WIND

BY ERIKA MERCER

THE ARTIST | CALLA
THE ALBUM | TELEVISE
RELEASE DATE | JAN. 21, 2003

CALLA WILL PERFORM IN COLTRANE LOUNGE THIS FRIDAY AT 8 P.M. AS PART OF THE ANNUAL SEPOMANA MUSIC FESTIVAL.

'TELEVISE' WILL BE FEATURED ON WRMC'S "ALBUM OF THE WEEK" THIS SUNDAY AT 9 P.M.

This is an album of goose bumps. Ethereal, dark, languorous, sexy. It takes place late at night, in the uncertain moment between a dream and a nightmare.

The tone is undecided — it lapses from hushed calm to pulsating fear, yet its refusal to settle permanently on either makes the moment eternal.

The goose bumps that rise on your skin won't subside until the silence following the album's final note jerks you out of your sleep state.

"Televise," Calla's third full-length release, which follows 1999's self-titled debut and 2001's "Scavengers," does anything but televise. It hypnotizes, lulls and soothes.

If there is a message to be broadcast, Calla is bent on keeping it secret as long as possible, releasing it like the relief from a time capsule — slowly, sedately, numbingly.

The lyrics are fragments you remember from a dream-cum-nightmare. On the album's opener, "Strangler," they assert, "I would give you anything, anything, just to see it happen to you." Or, "I can get the same effect if you strangle me."

On the final song, "Surface Scratch," they claim, "A surface mark is so hard to see. A surface scratch you left upon me."

Gothic and morose, these lyrics grow even darker — and even more beautiful — when sung by Aurelio Valle. His thick voice slurs the individual words into a layered, lush mess, sacrificing each separate statement for an overall mood.

Often hushed and barely above a whisper, Valle's vocals lap lightly against the edges of your consciousness, washing in and out of the album's instrumentals.

Sean Donovan's bass and keyboards intertwine unassumingly with the vocals, creating a dense texture and helping to build on the album's dark and subtle crescendos.

Wayne Magruder's sparse drumbeats form the backbone of the album, reminding you that there is, in fact, a skeleton supporting the ghostly form.

For even together with Valle's vocals and guitar, the music verges only now and then on an edgier rock sound, remaining mostly in the realm of brooding slowcore.

Together, the trio successfully maintains the precarious mood of the music, using control and precise timing to reach climaxes that heighten rather than destroy the hypnotic state into which they have brought you.

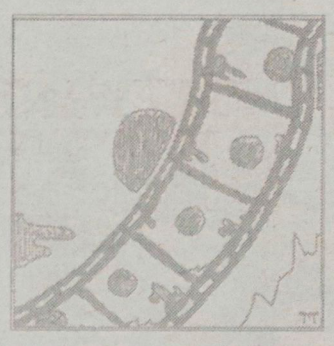
For this reason, "Televise" can assuredly be defined as one of the least self-indulgent albums to grace shelves during the past two years — were they to indulge, they would wake you from your sleep.

But they do just the opposite, keeping you just below consciousness.

That said, this is hardly music for a sunny morning — nor is it the type of album from which one individual song can be singled out.

The songs are meant to be played together, and they are meant to be played at night. "Televise" is a creature of the dark — a lazy, moody night dweller.

It will seduce you and frighten you at the same time.



THE REEL CRITIC

BY AARON STRUMWASSER

MOVIE | PUMPING IRON (1977)
DIRECTOR | GEORGE BUTLER AND ROBERT FIORE
STARRING | ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER

Even if you don't lift weights, and even if you don't like to watch people lift weights, as long as you're slightly amused by Arnold Schwarzenegger you have to see "Pumping Iron."

When it was released, it marked the birth of the American fitness craze and jump-started his film career.

But now, if you watch it on the recently released DVD edition, what it really does is showcase the birth of a politician.

After the first "Terminator" film, thanks to its absorbing action sequences and Arnold's mindless, automatic punch lines, audiences quickly forgot about what makes him fascinating — what he says and does without a script.

Throughout the 80 minutes of documentary footage in "Pumping Iron," he charms everyone he comes into contact with — including us — and yet, during the one-on-one interview sessions with the filmmakers, he naively reveals his self-serving callousness.

He says he refused to interrupt his weightlifting career to go home for his father's funeral — how even thinking of his father might ruin his competitive mindset.

He explains his plans to "psyche out" his heavyweight rival Lou Ferrigno, and then his all-around rival Franco Colombo.

His political savvy becomes especially apparent when he says, "I was just always impressed by people who could be remembered for hundreds of years, or even, you know, like Jesus [pronounced "cheeses"], being for like thousands of years."

So he must have known that bodybuilding has its limits. Nonetheless, Arnold triggered an evolutionary leap in the sport.

He brought it a mainstream audience, single-handedly carrying the movie on his shoulders not only because of his evident physical superiority, but also because we can't wait to see what he does next.

Although much of what we see him say and do is unfit for print, in one of the DVD's special features Arnold claims in another one-on-one interview that "Pumping Iron" is more fiction than fact, that nearly everything he says in the film he made up to entertain us.

The film's investors, he said, convinced him and the crew to make a docudrama instead of a documentary.

But that's just Arnold's politics talking. He is clearly worried that voters will believe too much of what early Arnold says.

A dishonest politician is one thing. But a politician who says he lied to become popular is so ingenuously unethical that we nearly forget he ever lied.

If Bill Clinton had resorted to such a tactic, impeachment might have been out of the question.

Nunley breaks language barriers

By Jason Siegel
Staff Writer

Ask any linguist, and she'll tell you that when you're in a country where you don't speak the language, you'll figure out what the most important words mean pretty quickly. And on Friday and Saturday night, actors in "Le Spectacle Jean Tardieu" proved this to a packed audience in Le Château Grand Salon.

The culmination of a semester of work in the French course "Study and Production of a Play," the show incorporated eight brief, one-act plays all written by the eponymous author.

Approaching the play from a non-native standpoint had its benefits.

The show started out with a wonderfully comic scene composed of monologues and dialogues (written by Sylvain Hinglais) between people forming a line to get into a show, ranging from an old couple professing their love for each another to a man expressing his contempt for the woman disturbing his reading.

Every actor in the show appeared on stage, giving us a welcome preview of the well-executed performances that were to follow.

Though every scene was well written, two stood out as exceptional. "Finissez vos phrases!" featured two people (Courtney Matson '06.5 and Pascal Maharjan '06) holding a conversation in which neither person ever finished their sentences (hence the title for the non-francophone readers).

Despite the fact that no thought was ever complete, the audience could tell exactly what they meant.

The other exceptionally entertaining piece was "Conversation-Sinfonietta," which featured a chorus of actors conducting and echoing a conversation in rhythm as though they were instruments in an orchestra, coming in on cues provided by David Tswamuno '05. The last movement, "Scherzo Vivace" or "Ridiculously Fast," was especially lively and well timed.

The show was directed by Associate Professor of French Charles Nunley '82, whose actors praised him for his insistence on independent work. Each piece's actors had to meet outside of class to formulate their own blocking, line delivery and other aspects of the dramatic process.

However, since all the students were non-native French speakers, there was one additional obstacle — figuring out what the play meant. "We worked together to struggle through the language," Myra Palmero '07 said.

Complicating matters was the fact that the plays contained many puns, incomplete thoughts and nonsensical words, sophisticated even for native speakers.

But, approaching the play from a non-native standpoint had its benefits. "The non-native's approach to these texts has a degree of spontaneity and innocence which is enriching in its own right," said Nunley.

Despite these obstacles, audience reaction was fantastic. Said Aysegül Savas '07, an actress in the show, "I loved the audience reaction. It really energized us."

Even those in the audience that did not speak French were able to comprehend the show. "As a theater major, I was interested to see what I could understand with the language barrier in place [. . .] I was able to get the relationships of one character to another," said Brian Siegele '07.

In the end, the actors proved that petty things like word comprehension should never get in the way of enjoying good theater.

Vlad Lodoaba

TOP: Erin Twohig '06.5, Julina Rundberg '06 and Daniel Wolf '04 acting French. ABOVE: Marco Sotelino '04 theatrically brandishes a tennis racket.

Vlad Lodoaba

Students of Associate Professor of French Charles Nunley's (reclining) course "Study and Production of a Play" turned into actors and actresses for Friday and Saturday nights' performances of "Le Spectacle Jean Tardieu."

Mantell's art embraces the grotesque

By Aysegul Savas
Staff Writer

A close up photo of Denise's breasts. One of Donna's waist. Kirk's leg, Suzanne's knees and David's back. Michelle's vagina.

These blunt photos of the human body are not what we are used to seeing in the media, which presents idealized human bodies, or in traditional art, which presents bodies of refined beauty.

Denise is bruised, Donna has a rod in her spine, Kirk's leg is broken and Michelle has ovarian cysts. Yet the photos taken by 2004 Johnson Artist-in-Residence May Mantell are too powerful to be seen as mere post-surgery medical slides.

Mantell's works, currently on display in Johnson Art Center, are almost painful to view and have a striking effect on the viewer as grotesque as they are.

She states that "scars are fleeting reminders of how vulnerable and mysteriously powerful we are in our capacity to wound, heal and regenerate as human beings."

The artist is able to pass beyond diluted and empty images of the body. The individual scars of the subjects impart a sense of individuality to the works. "I have come to think of people's scars as their bodies' representations of an event and its incorporation into flesh," Mantell explains.

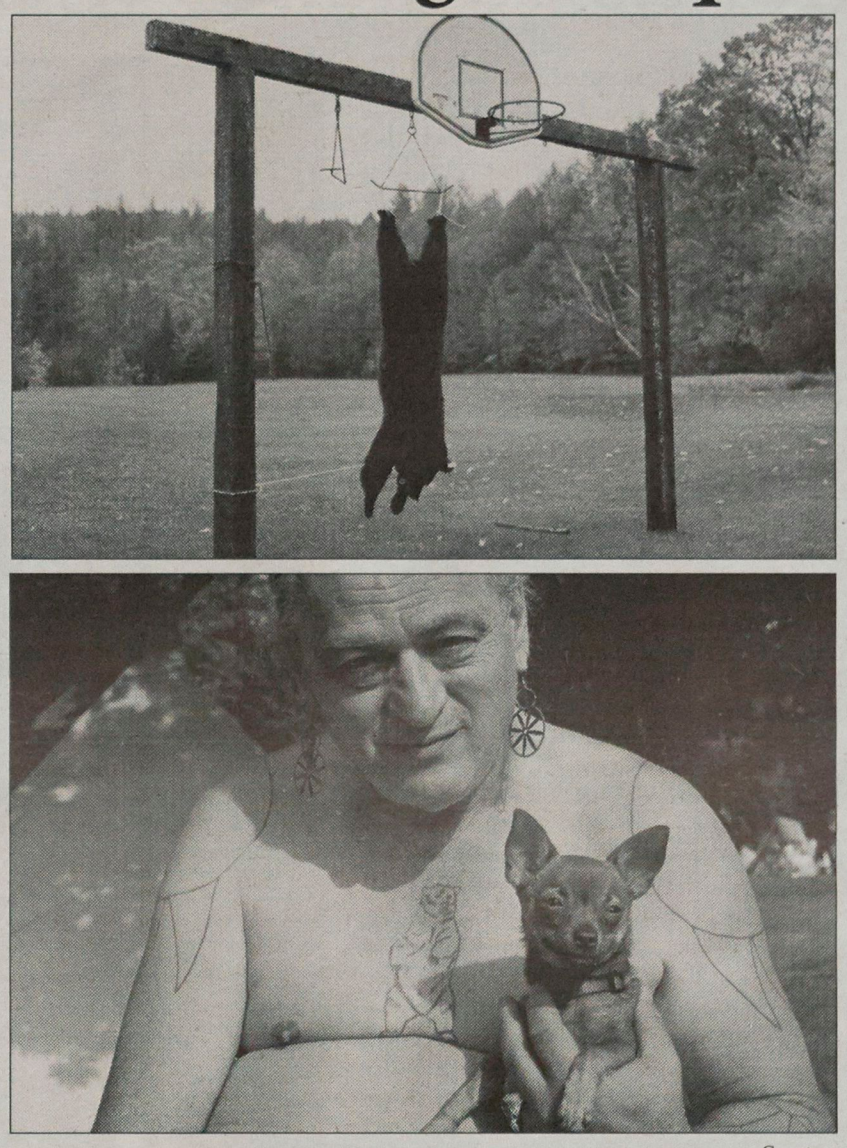
Another set of Mantell's work is a project of black-and-white page spreads which she will eventually form into a book. The exhibit, labeled "People & Animals," is a collection of nature shots merged with unaccustomed poses of people in somewhat comical state.

One of the most striking combinations in the exhibit is the photo of two seagulls, followed by a photo of a woman holding up her dress to reveal the seagull eggs that sit between her legs.

"People & Animals" also presents a touch of irony in its collection of scenes from life and death. The rotting skeleton of a cat alongside a naked pregnant woman is one example of the silent yet piercing nature of the artist's work.

It is easy to define Mantell's photography as repellently naturalistic. The artist surely does not appeal to the viewer's sense of aesthetics in her honest capturing of deformation, scars and death. What she does do, however, is challenge the viewer to look at her work, to be intrigued — even pained — by its openness.

Our eyes are trained to gaze on difficult and disturing images.



Courtesy
2004 Johnson Artist-in-Residence May Mantell's black and white photographs of animals and humans went on display in Johnson last Thursday and are forthcoming in book form.

is it art?

A LOOK AT THOSE WHO DARE TO STRETCH THE CREATIVE LIMITS

Three weeks ago during spring break, I ventured into the metropolis of New York City. To satiate my creative desires, I budgeted a day into my schedule to explore the offerings of the art capital of the world. I started my six hours with a visit to the Metropolitan Museum of Art's "Byzantium: Faith and Power, 1261-1557" and "Poets, Lovers, and Heroes in Italian Mythological Prints" exhibitions.

That was followed by an encounter with the Guggenheim's "Boccioni's Materia" exhibition. My visits were brief — I wish I could have stayed longer! — but satisfying. They provided glimpses of centuries old artists, cultures and societies. I saw paintings, drawings, mosaics, prints, sculptures, architectural works, knickknacks, furniture and photographs — all *traditional* pieces of art.

The finale to my tour around the city, a visit to the Whitney Museum of American Art, was the most invigorating and eye-opening experience. The Museum's "2004 Whitney Biennial Exhibition," the 72nd show of its kind, represented the hottest and latest trends in the American art world. The curators explained that the exhibition's purpose was to explore a number of interwoven aesthetic tendencies in works by an exceptional group of intergenerational artists.

As I strolled in awe through the galleries displaying the myriad hyper-modern and late-late conceptual artworks, the eternal question arose — what is art? While there were strong groupings of paintings, drawings, prints and sculptures, my synapses really started firing when I came across all the new age productions — installations, videos, sound-bites, films, performances and digital art. I listened to a DJ's recording in a colorfully animated room. I observed an elaborate sandcastle. I focused on a few scrolling marquees and viewed an eccentric daredevil.

The major showcase of American art was nothing less than a circus — a very entertaining circus. The eclectic display made me — the columnist of "Is It Art?" — wonder what is and isn't considered "art" these days? To find a solution to this broad question, I polled my readers and friends to get their input.

Julia Steen '07 explained, "I think that what is considered art varies from person to person. For the art community, art is anything that expresses itself whether it is expressing emotions, thoughts or opinions."

"I think, however, that most of society has a different stance on what makes something art," continued Steen. "They think that art is something that they cannot do and takes, according to them *talent*. They do not recognize that the talent is often in the thought process and not the physical result."

Emily Kidder '05 commented, "[Art is] anything with an expression of the human condition."

I asked them whether they believe it is important for art to reflect the thoughts and emotions of the artist, publicize a social or political issue, be visually pleasing and/or create a new way of thinking.

Thirty percent of responses supported art as a new way of thinking and the same percentage concurred that art should reflect the emotions of the artist.

In response to the creative objective of art, Junior Alex Castillo-Kesper noted, "[Artists] should approach a method or concept in an innovative way and, if not, have a message provoking thought."

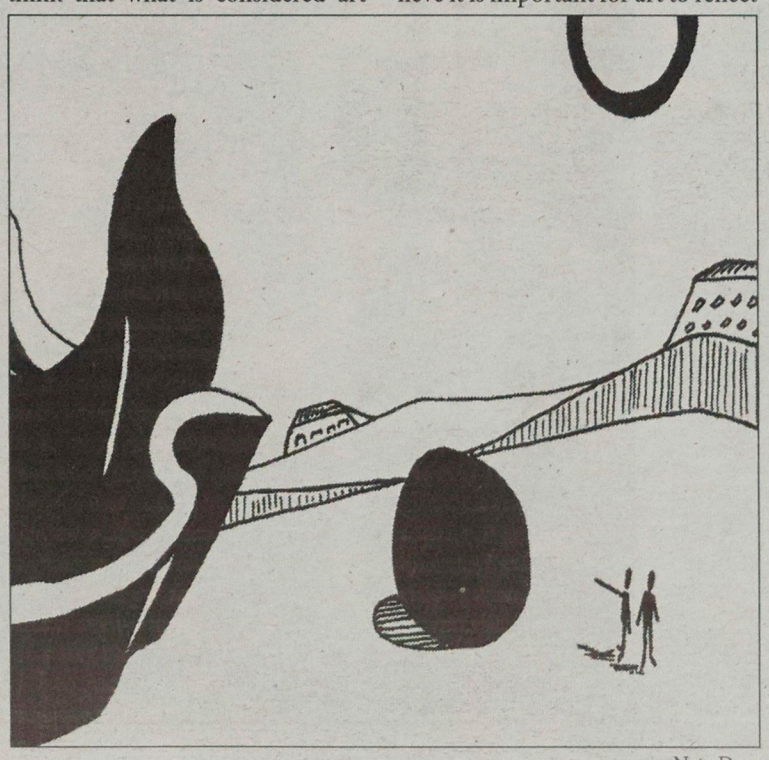
Everyone agreed that art doesn't have to be aesthetically pleasing. Castillo-Kesper pointed out, "Who defines what is visually pleasing?"

Only 10 percent supported art as a means of forwarding a political or social agenda.

Former "Is It Art?" guru Abbie Beane '04.5 said it best — "'Art' these days is anything you want it to be [...] Now art can be anything from the classic impressionist painting — to a toenail glued on a piece of red construction paper and entitled, 'Personal Tribute to the Half-Moon — A Fractal of My Soul, or Me a Fractal of the Cosmos?'"

The poll results aren't the foundation for an in-depth analysis but they added evidence to my theory. The concept of art today is too broad to define. Like Marcel Duchamp and his shocking bicycle wheel on a stool sculpture, art is meant to inspire, frustrate and most importantly incite a response in its viewer.

— CHRIS GROSSO,
ARTS EDITOR



Nate Dorr
Two figures, an unknown body and a surrealist setting: all the makings of modern art.

LITERARY PICKS

BY EDWARD PICKERING

TITLE
THE GIRL WITH THE PEARL EARRING
AUTHOR
TRACY CHEVALIER
PUBLICATION DATE
1999

In 1665 Jan Vermeer, the most famous Dutch painter of interior scenes, finished a canvas that has captivated and mystified viewers ever since. "The Girl with the Pearl Earring" depicts the head and shoulders of an unidentified girl, clad in a blue turban, in the act of turning her head toward the viewer. The background is an impenetrable black. The girl's movement is fleeting but frozen, her glance at once momentary but static. Her lips are casually parted as if she were about to speak. But the most salient detail of all is the pearl earring that seems to float beneath her left ear, a dash of white against the opacity of shadow.

Tracy Chevalier turned her fascination for the painting into a novel. It's no surprise then that Vermeer's bewitching masterpiece graces the cover of "Girl with a Pearl Earring," published in 1999. The girl's meticulously painted portrait gives way to an equally meticulous performance: Chevalier has crafted a pearl-like novel of shimmering beauty.

Chevalier provides an answer to the enigmatic identity of Vermeer's timeless sitter. Griet, a 16-year old servant girl, takes a position as a servant in Vermeer's prosperous Delft household. In the novel's opening scene Vermeer and wife arrive at Griet's home in order to inspect her. Griet watches them quietly, circumspectly. In a matter of pages Chevalier masterfully fashions the novel's three primary characters. Vermeer appears reserved and insightful, "his eyes grey like the sea," his face long and angular and his expression "steady, in contrast to his wife's, which flickered like a candle." Shrewish and jealous, and constantly pregnant, Vermeer's wife rules the house with an unrelenting fist. Without compliant Griet enters into her domestic duties but also into a web of domestic tension. These only increase as her relationship to Vermeer gradually develops into something more than that of master/servant.

Among her rote of duties Griet is entrusted with the cleaning of her master's studio. One afternoon she takes the bold step of altering Vermeer's still life props, a decision that opens the painter's eyes to her own artistic intelligence.

In prose that is placid and precise Chevalier self-consciously pays homage to Vermeer's artistic style. Little is known about either Vermeer's life or the histories behind his paintings. He has inspired numerous writers to embark on voyages of speculative fiction. "Girl with a Pearl Earring" postulates a satisfying history for one of art's most tantalizing faces.

Walsh offends audience with crude humor

By Zoey Burrows
Staff Writer

For those who enjoy misogynist, poorly relayed blue-collar humor, then Walsh is the answer to a fun evening. For the rest of us, standup comedian PJ Walsh may well be the antithesis of "good times" and "good laughs."

Advertised ironically as a "wholesome Easter weekend" event, many were surprised how unwholesome the show was. While his crude flatulence, sex and navy humor met with enthusiastic laughter, Walsh crossed the line for many audience members with his biased gender representations that were simply not funny much of the time.

Within minutes of the show, it was all too evident what a "guy's guy" he is, belittling his past girlfriends and using his younger sister as the butt of many jokes.

Walsh may well be the antithesis of 'good times' and 'good laughs.'

Several women went so far as to describe the show as "awful, offensive, sexist, anti-everything, anti-expression!" Ellen Wohlberg '06 left five minutes into the show because she did not appreciate the "blatant anti-gay comments."

Not everybody had a negative reaction to the show, including parents and siblings visiting for Easter weekend. A younger audience member especially liked Walsh's anecdote about how he would seek revenge on his strict parents and harsh teachers if he were a policeman for a week.

Why the overall negative reactions to this well-planned MCAB-sponsored event? Content aside, what was perhaps most disappointing about the show was Walsh's aggressive rapport with the audience, interacting with people in a manner that made them more uncomfortable than amused.

The pacing was another one of his downfalls, moving too slowly through his material so that what was funny for a minute (like his on-stage cell phone conversation with an unsuspecting audience member's friend), became awkward and inappropriate when it continued on for several minutes.

MCAB members said they were psyched to bring Walsh to Middlebury College after seeing him perform to great acclaim at the National Association for Campus Activities (NACA) conference in Hartford, Conn.

They said that he was by far the "best comedian" there and seemed like the quintessential "college comedian." With all his jokes about drugs, like driving in circles while stoned and tripping on acid with his friends, one might think he'd have a receptive audience, but it was not readily accepted here at Middlebury.

One audience member pitted Walsh's show against the Def Comedy Jam from earlier this year, explaining that although the Def Comedy Jam comedians' material was often just as offensive, it was downright funny because they kept the pace up and material flowing. Walsh, in comparison, lacked the adaptive skills to render his generally offensive material humorous to a Middlebury audience.

When he didn't get laughs at women-bashing jokes, Walsh didn't take the hint that there were a lot of women in the crowd. While some may interpret this as an asset in sticking to his guns no matter the crowd, most of us admire the skill it takes to adapt quickly to one's environment.

MCAB member Stephen Ratpojanakul '06 explained that the NACA conference is "an all-American forum," where jokes that offended many Middlebury students were more readily appreciated.

MCAB member Meredith Kernan '05 seconded this sentiment, saying that the NACA conference was a very "different environment," one in which Walsh's jokes seemed funnier, possibly because everybody else there was so enthused.

Ratpojanakul elaborated that while Walsh's 20-minute segment at the conference was hilarious, the one-and-a-half hour show in McCullough seemed to drag, which demonstrates the skill it requires to keep the jokes cracking for an extended period of time.

Though the turnout was better than expected, Kernan said, "It was unfortunate it had to be on Easter Weekend." The small audience size certainly hindered the enthusiasm in the room, and Walsh lacked the necessary skills to pick up the slack, reverting to the audience for subject matter. "Just tell some jokes!" several annoyed audience members shouted out several times during the show.

Arguably the most poorly rendered part of the show was the dance-off competition between five guys and five girls who were meant to "represent" their sex. Walsh mocked them and stereotyped them, informing the audience that "the girls pretty much never win," that the guys "always do," and that Middlebury's "guys better represent" (which they did).

What made this particular episode so painful was that there was nothing innately humorous about the dance-off. It was just cutthroat and belittling.

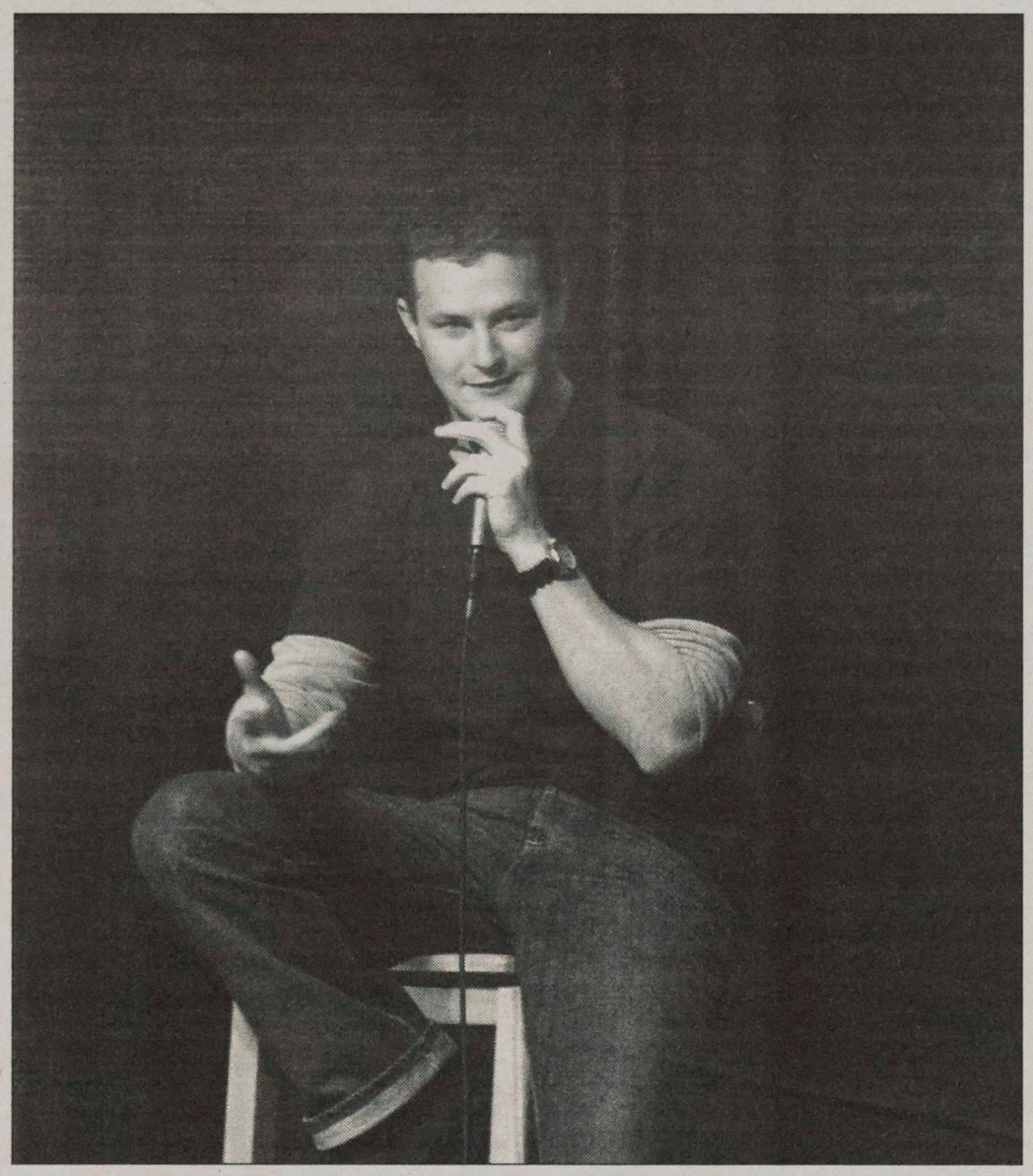
Walsh made fun of the "nice guys" on stage, warning the guys that if they "shook their butts" that was just "gay," one of his favorite words for males that failed to represent the typical masculine man.

Walsh did not only use females as the subject of ridicule, but also foreigners, including Italians and Frenchmen, as he described his five-and-a-half years in the navy.

His crude attacks extended to audience members, especially the "whooers from California," alienating members who responded defensively to his humor.

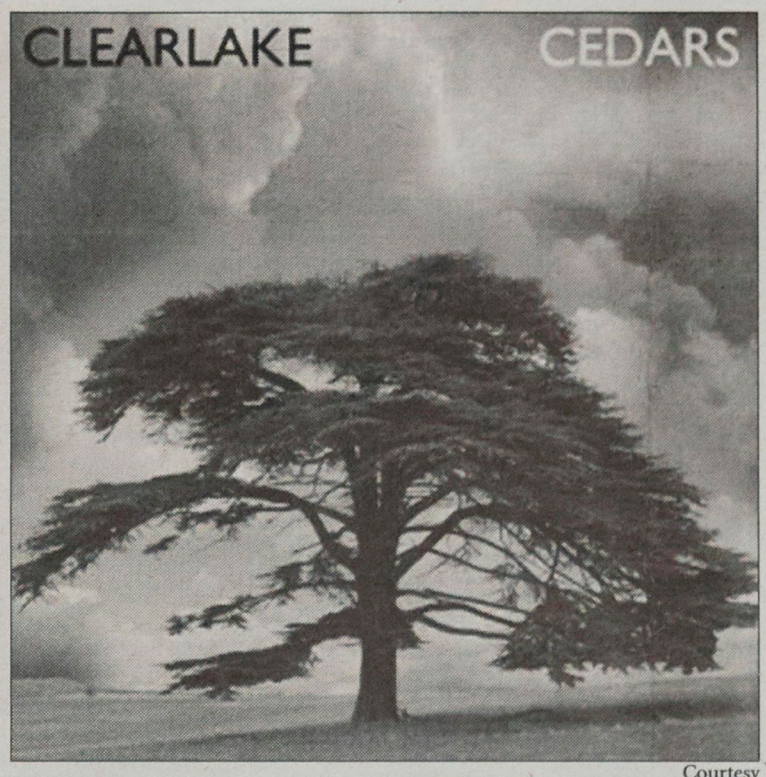
A native of New York who has been performing stand-up comedy for 10 years, Walsh can be seen performing at venues such as the Comedy Store, the Laugh Factory, the L.A. Connection and Dublin's.

His website at www.pjwalsh.com explains, "If [Walsh] didn't do comedy, he probably would be a spastic blue-collar worker trying to keep his fellow proletarians suitably entertained while they work for 'the man.'"



Vlad Lodoaba

Standup comedian PJ Walsh, a hit elsewhere, failed to connect with many audience members when he performed at Middlebury over Easter Weekend. His brand of humor was critized as misogynist and crude and his pacing as too drawn-out.



Courtesy

Jason Pegg, lead singer of the band Clearlake, an English rock import, will peform on campus this Friday. "Cedars" is Clearlake's second album, arriving two years after "Lido."

Clearlake carries 'Cedars' to Middlebury

By Mike Deni
Staff Writer

Coming right off a show at New York's Irving Plaza, Clearlake, a rock quartet from Brighton, England, will grace us with its presence this Friday as part of WRMC's annual Sepomana music festival.

This concert is no small thing, because Clearlake makes music do what it's supposed to do — strip you of everything so that you find yourself balancing on a thin plank in the middle of an entire sea of emotion, then suddenly the plank is gone, and you're being tossed around in the waves as if you were a rag doll.

After their 2001 release "Lido," Jason Pegg (vocals, guitar, piano), Woody Woodward (bass, omnichord), James Butcher (drums) and Sam Hewitt (keyboards) came running out of the cold water off the English coast carrying "Cedars" in their teeth.

The phenomenal 2003 release displays the ever-growing musical intent and creativity of this band, coupled with an eye for pop and pleasure. There isn't a boring track on the album — songs slide in and out of each other, weaving together lyrical as well as musical themes to produce an effect that is as exciting as a live show.

Clearlake offers a different kind of emotive music. There is no one shuddering or screaming or poo-pooing. But there are churchbell-beautiful arrangements, often dark, sometimes with dissonant guitars that never let you relax until you are pummeled by a roaring chorus. (Listen to the album's 10th track, "Treat Yourself with Kindness.")

The album's later musical style gives the songs room to breath and doesn't feel confined to the straight-up, head-bobbing indie rock that defines the album's first half.

"It goes along really," says Pegg of a song in progress. "It goes where it wants. You get a small piece of it, and then the difficult part of it is finding the other bits of the puzzle that are related to it, to make it a whole thing."

Pegg's lyrics are often eerie, disturbing, nuanced deconstructions of what makes us human.

Clearlake is quite capable of making you dance, but it's not afraid of making you stare, listen and even grimace. Pegg's goal is "only to make something that's special. And that is according to so many different rules. I mean, they change all the time, but it's kind of just about, like I said, a magpie thing, of going, oh, that would be good," he said in an interview with *The Middlebury Campus*.

Pegg's lyrics are often eerie, disturbing, nuanced deconstructions of what makes us human — prone to failure and helplessness. These walks down Pegg's garden path are ironized and often quite darkly funny.

However, when coupled with music that is either heart-wrenchingly beautiful or horrifically tragic and desperate, the lyrics meld into this mix to create a vivid portrait of life on this earth. Such tracks as "Keep Smiling" and "Trees in the City" are perfect examples of Clearlake's at once beautiful and fatalistic form of expression.

Picture a person smiling neighborly to you as he passes by carrying his dead dog or a butcher singing a beautiful aria as blood splatters onto his apron. Why do I want you to picture this? I forget. But it has something to do with the music.

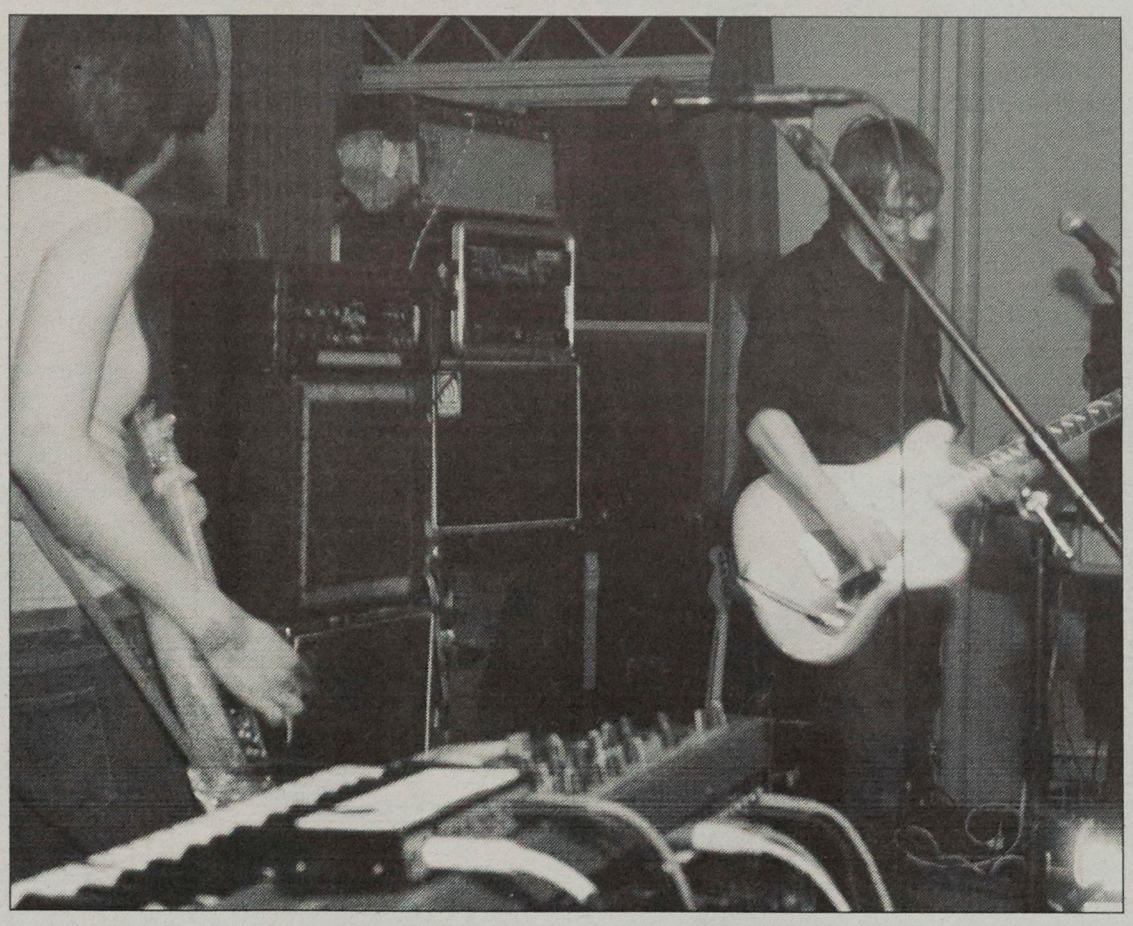
Pegg's small-talk style may not be poetry, but it is striking and seems to amount to something more poignant than most self-absorbed lyricists, although many have derided him as blatantly, almost embarrassingly honest.

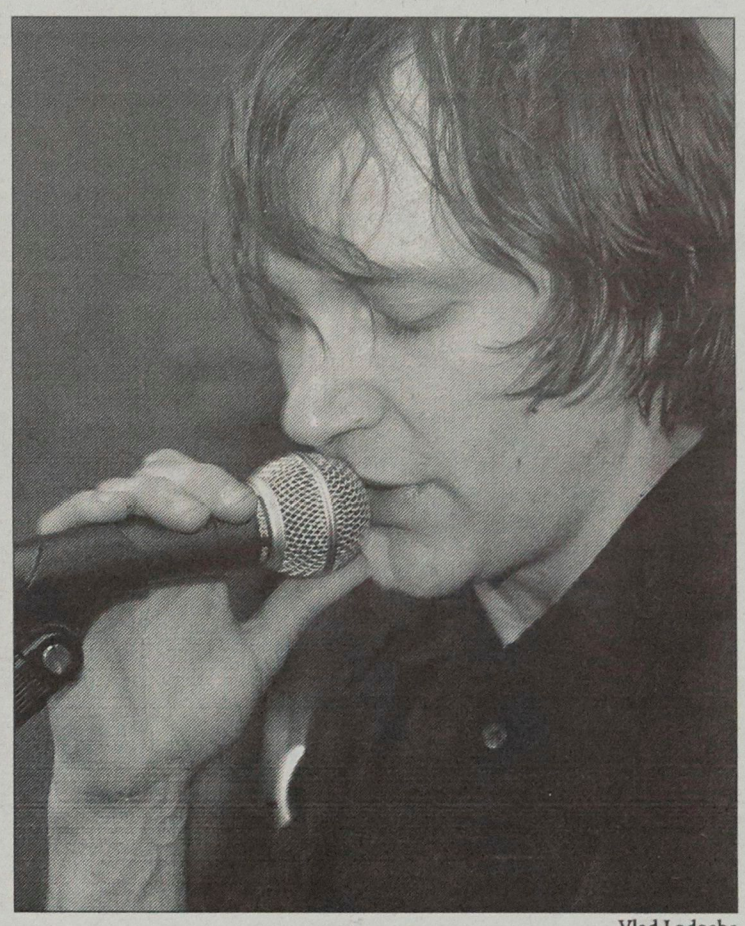
I say, good for him. That's the point. It is embarrassing to be honest. And rarely do you find a band that couples musical and lyrical honesty with beauty and creativity to the degree that we will witness Friday night. It keeps you bobbing your head, and they keep your ears open.

When it gets back to England, the band will finish another album, slated for a 2005 release. We can expect more improvisation, though not so much that it stray from "a sense of a song and composition."

They are anything but complacent, and, as Pegg says, "It took us a long time to get here and we've still got much further to go." With a growing audience, however, the band can see self-sufficiency just over the horizon, and Pegg looks forward to "devoting as much time as we can to making better music."

SEPOMANA KICKS OFF FRIDAY NIGHT





Vlad Lodoaba

Dance rock trio Enon took the stage at Coltrane Lounge last Friday night as the first installation of WRMC's annual Sepomana music festival. The festival continues this Friday at 8 p.m. with performances by Middlebury student band Penelope, Brooklyn-based trio Calla and Brighton, England, rock quartet Clearlake.

Student-run VACA revitalizes arts on campus

By Kelsey Smith
Staff Writer

Though you may not know what VACA stands for, you've probably been to an event sponsored by them this year without realizing it.

During Johnson Week, VACA organized a silent auction that raised approximately $600 in four days.

The Vitality of the Artistic Community Association, as it is officially called, was formed in 1998, but it's just this year that the group is really beginning to establish itself on campus.

VACA has been sponsoring events almost every weekend throughout the winter and spring semesters, all of which have been well attended.

Jocelyn Florence '06, one of the organization's three co-presidents, explains VACA's evolution as an effort to expand events to include all media of art — visual, musical, performance and spoken word — as opposed to focusing just on the visual arts.

Anjelika Paranjpe '05, another co-president of the organization, pointed out that this year the group has seen a significant rise in the number of other organizations interested in co-sponsoring events with VACA.

Additionally, Paranjpe stressed that VACA prides itself on being able to cross the "artsy" and "not-artsy" labels that are so prevalent on college campuses.

"I'd say we do a good job of making art much more accessible to the general college community and not just those who would automatically come to an 'artsy' event. For example, we got over 200 people to attend a poetry slam/interpretive performance art event about mass imprisonment and the war on drugs on a Saturday night during J-Term," she explained.

VACA-spearheaded events range from a fall art gallery opening in the basement of Forest Hall featuring student band Penelope to a Halloween party in Johnson featuring the off-campus band Highway Freaker. Add to the list of their accomplishments a Slam Poetry event, a winter gallery opening with student murals and the band Sea of Key, Johnson Week art night, and a Gamut Room performance by the New York University band Quintus.

There have also been a number of smaller Gamut Room performances, including acoustic nights with student performers.

During Johnson Week, VACA organized a silent auction that raised approximately $600 in four days.

The closing night consisted of free styling, three student bands, singing teachers and walls covered in impromptu artistic responses to the music.

Paranjpe added that this was an especially proud accomplishment because it was pulled together with only a few days' notice.

If you found yourself in the basement of Forest this past Saturday night celebrating Holi, the Indian festival of color and spring, you have VACA to thank for the good time.

Joseph Rhoades '07.5 is a VACA member who has enjoyed many of the organizations recent events, including the Holi party in lower Forest. "It's important to maintain an artistic community on campus," he said. "I've had a lot of fun at VACA events and I always encourage my friends to come along with me."

VACA has close to 100 members, and Florence encourages all types of people to get involved. "Our members are artists, art appreciators or just friends of either. Becoming a member isn't much of a commitment, it just means that you'll be added to our e-mail list and be expected to attend a few meetings. The more the merrier," she said.

also
the middlebury campus magazine
on newsstands in may

TUNING IN

Singer-songwriter Dave Rovics performed in the Center for the Arts Concert Hall on April 12.

Photo by Albert Bitici

The Middlebury Campus
ONLINE
a brand new look | web exclusives | interactive message boards
www.middlebury campus.com
PLUS! all the latest campus news, arts events and sports scores
make it your homepage for one-click access to webmail, dining hall menus, bannerweb and more
log on today

also

the middlebury campus magazine

seeks applicants to fill the following
positions for the fall 2004 semester

EDITOR: Manages staff and oversees all aspects of magazine production, from article conception to final edits.
Elected position.

SENIOR EDITOR: Works closely with Editor in all aspects of magazine leadership and production.
Elected position.

CONTENT EDITORS: Follow one feature story per issue throughout the entire production process. Assist with editing all content.

DESIGN EDITOR: Assists Editor and Senior Editor in conceptualizing and designing layout for all pages.

PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR: Helps Editor and Senior Editor brainstorm appropriate photographs for each issue, coordinates photographers and prepares photographs in PhotoShop for publication.

ASSISTANT PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR: Assists Photography Editor in his or her duties.

ART EDITOR: Coordinates artists and illustrators for each issue.

ASSISTANT EDITORS: Perform various small duties, including writing, interviewing, fact-checking and copy-editing.

---

openings for
WRITERS, PHOTOGRAPHERS and ILLUSTRATORS
are also available.

---

e-mail also@middlebury.edu for more information
and application materials.

The Middlebury Campus

SEEKS STAFF WRITERS FOR
ALL EDITORIAL DEPARTMENTS.

E-MAIL CAMPUS@MIDDLEBURY.EDU
FOR MORE INFORMATION.

www.middlebury.com

make it your homepage

The Middlebury Campus

IS CURRENTLY ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS FOR THE FALL 2004 SEMESTER.

ASSOCIATE EDITOR: ASSISTS EDITOR-IN-CHIEF AND MANAGING EDITOR IN ALL ASPECTS OF NEWSPAPER PRODUCTION. WORKS CLOSELY WITH SECTION EDITORS. COPY-EDITING AND LAYOUT SKILLS A MUST.

NEWS EDITOR: RESPONSIBLE FOR CONCEIVING, ASSIGNING AND EDITING NEWS STORIES. ALSO RESPONSIBLE FOR LAYOUT OF SECTION. MUST BE AWARE OF CAMPUS NEWS AND HAVE A MIND FOR CREATIVE JOURNALISM.

LOCAL NEWS EDITOR: RESPONSIBLE FOR CONCEIVING, ASSIGNING AND EDITING LOCAL NEWS STORIES. ALSO RESPONSIBLE FOR LAYOUT OF SECTION. MUST BE INTERESTED IN TOWN AND STATE POLITICS AND COMMUNITY EVENTS AND HAVE A MIND FOR CREATIVE JOURNALISM.

OPINIONS EDITOR: RESPONSIBLE FOR SOLICITING AND EDITING OPINIONS PIECES, LETTERS TO THE EDITOR AND EDITORIAL CARTOONS. ALSO RESPONSIBLE FOR LAYOUT OF SECTION. MUST HAVE A KEEN INTEREST IN CAMPUS LIFE AND SHARP EYE FOR CONTROVERSY.

FEATURES EDITOR: RESPONSIBLE FOR CONCEIVING NOVEL, INTERESTING AND PERTINENT STORY IDEAS AND ASSIGNING STORIES. THIS POSITION OFFERS AN EXCITING LEVEL OF FREEDOM, ALLOWING THE EDITOR TO SHAPE THE SECTION, AS OPPOSED TO THE SECTION SHAPING THE EDITOR. ALSO RESPONSIBLE FOR LAYOUT OF SECTION.

ARTS EDITOR: RESPONSIBLE FOR CREATING AND ASSIGNING ARTICLES BASED ON ARTS-RELATED EVENTS AT THE COLLEGE AND IN THE SURROUNDING COMMUNITY. MUST BE ABLE TO THINK OUTSIDE THE BOX AND CONCEPTUALIZE INNOVATIVE FEATURE IDEAS. ALSO RESPONSIBLE FOR LAYOUT OF SECTION.

SPORTS EDITOR: ASSIGNS AND EDITS ALL SPORTS STORIES. SHOULD BE FAMILIAR WITH MEMBERS AND COACHES OF MIDDLEBURY ATHLETIC TEAMS AND IN TOUCH WITH NONVARSITY ACTIVITIES. MUST HAVE A KEEN EYE FOR POTENTIAL SPORTS-RELATED FEATURE STORIES. ALSO RESPONSIBLE FOR LAYOUT OF SECTION.

PHOTO EDITOR: RESPONSIBLE FOR ASSIGNING AND TAKING PHOTOS REQUESTED BY EACH SECTION. MUST HAVE GOOD TECHNICAL SKILLS INCLUDING KNOWLEDGE OF DARKROOM PROCEDURES AND DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY. FAMILIARITY WITH PHOTOSHOP A PLUS. MUST BE DEPENDABLE. PAID POSITION.

PLEASE NOTE THAT ASSISTANT EDITORSHIPS ARE AVAILABLE IN ALL EDITORIAL DEPARTMENTS.

ONLINE EDITOR: RESPONSIBLE FOR POSTING ALL EDITORIAL CONTENT ON THE WEBSITE. MUST BE COMFORTABLE WITH WEB PAGE DESIGN. HTML KNOWLEDGE A PLUS. ALSO MUST BE WILLING TO STAY IN CONTACT WITH WEBSITE PROVIDERS. PAID POSITION.

TECH CONSULTANT: RESPONSIBLE FOR MONITORING OFFICE COMPUTERS, INSTALLING NEW SOFTWARE, ARCHIVING FILES AND TROUBLESHOOTING. MUST BE WILLING TO BE ON CALL DURING PRODUCTION. PAID POSITION.

PRODUCTION ASSISTANT: RESPONSIBLE FOR DESIGNING PAGES AND ASSISTING SECTION EDITORS WITH LAYOUT. KNOWLEDGE OF LAYOUT SOFTWARE A PLUS.

ILLUSTRATOR: RESPONSIBLE FOR PRODUCING EDITORIAL CARTOONS EACH WEEK AND EXECUTING ILLUSTRATIONS REQUESTED BY SECTION EDITORS.

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REQUEST AN ELECTRONIC APPLICATION, PLEASE CONTACT DEVIN ZATORSKI (4814) OR CLAIRE BOURNE (6353).

Track shines at Williams

NESCACs on the horizon for track and field

By Tom McCann
Sports Editor

NESCACs are almost here, and the Middlebury track and field teams are almost ready. This week, the athletes took a trip down Route 7 and paid perennial rival Williams a visit. The athletes knew that their final road trip before NESCACs was a perfect opportunity to fine-tune their form before the stakes get considerably higher.

Next weekend, the Middlebury track and field teams will play host for the final time this year, giving the Middlebury fan base a final chance to see some of the brightest lights in the athletics department in a final prelude to the NESCAC Championships.

The Williams Relays saw Jessica Manzer '05 steal the show on the women's side as she romped home in the 1,500m in a time of 4:44.52, while also having enough steam to finish second in the 800m, 2:23.40 after the gun.

Fresh off her first victory of the season in the meet last week, Kirsten Nagel '06 sprinted to a fourth place finish in the 100m (13.21), also placing in the top 10 in the 200m later in the day. Nagel commented, "The tail wind helped the sprinters and I was pleased with my times in the 100m and 200m. Going into the next couple of weeks I'm pretty motivated because practices are going well and I'm feeling strong."

First-year Erin Oliver proved her potential after crossing the line in second place in the 10,000m in another strong performance from the track women.

Jennifer March '04 earned the gold star in the field events for Middlebury as she provided the only first place finish on the day. She launched her hammer 146', a full 50cm farther than her nearest competition. First-year standouts, Meira Lifson and Mary Frederickson, both placed second in their events, Lifson in the pole vault and then Frederickson in the javelin. On the whole, the women team performed as well as they could have hoped, priming themselves for the challenges that lie just over the horizon.

On the men's side, Nick Digani '05, having sat out the home meet last week, resumed normal service by winning the 1,500m, breaking the tape in a time of 4:02.16, less than two tenths of a second quicker than the second place athlete. Any money placed on another triumph for Kevin Bright '06 would have been well spent although this week it came in the 400m. He blitzed the field in 49.84, the only athlete to break the 50-second barrier in the race. Bright commented, "I'm happy I've run the 400m outdoors at last — it's really all about preparing for NESCACs and getting the best seeding we can at this point."

The men in the field continued their fine form with a pair of second place finishes highlighting their efforts. Peter Webb '04 elevated to 11' 6" in the pole vault competition while sophomore Steve Atkinson sent his javelin skywards, eventually landing 160' from where he released it.

So now the athletes have one more meet before the trip to Trinity for the NESCAC Championships. It's a final chance for the athletes to hit top form before it really matters, and also a final chance for some to qualify for the post-season. The Dragone Track and Field Complex will be abuzz once more, dancing to the tune of some of the finest athletes Middlebury has seen in recent memory.

Vlad Lodoaba

Steven Chester '07 rides another in the 110m hurdles down in Williams last weekend. The meet was a great opportunity for Middlebury track and field athletes to continue their preparation for the NESCACs in two weeks.

Rowers pull positives from weekend regatta

By Emily Berlanstein
Staff Writer

Last weekend presented a challenge to the Middlebury crews as they faced perennial powerhouses Bowdoin College and Amherst College after only two practices on Lake Dunmore. Middlebury's two wins were recorded by the novice women in the Novice Women's Eight and Novice Women's Four events.

The Panthers struggled in varsity competition, but the races proved to be an ideal opportunity for the various line-ups to gel on the water, in a pressure situation.

Head Coach Alex Machi commended the Lightweight Women's Eight. "Despite the time difference, it turned out to be a good row . . . they really started to click," he said.

The Middlebury women fell behind the Polar Bears early on in the race, due to rough water and high winds. But, as the race continued and the conditions improved, they regained confidence and began to make a move on Bowdoin.

With a strong sprint finish, the Panthers closed the gap and began to feel themselves rowing well together, which, at this point in the season, they often consider more important than winning.

The novice women were the stars of the regatta, defeating Bowdoin twice on their way to winning the Fiorito Cup, which is awarded to the top novice women's crew in the "Big Three Meet" between Middlebury, Amherst and Bowdoin.

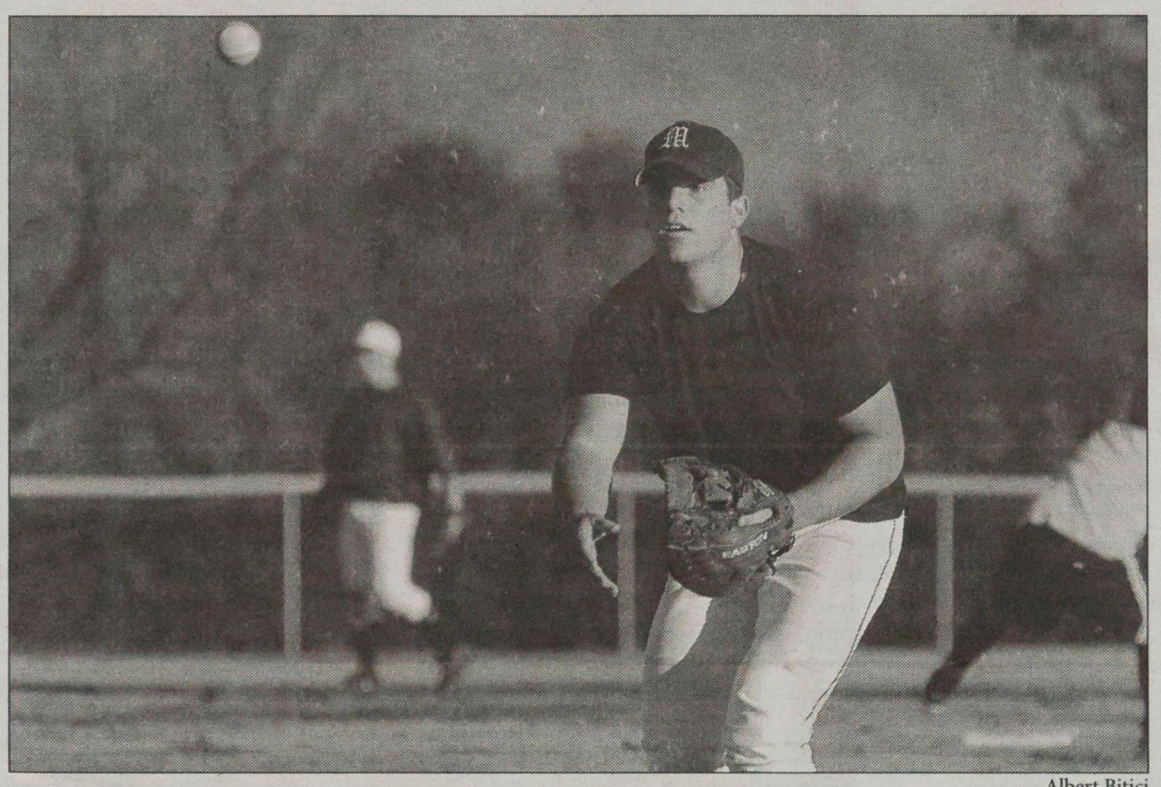
Middlebury's Novice Women's Eight defeated Bowdoin with a time of 7:23.0. In the Novice Women's Four event, the Panthers outraced Bowdoin and Amherst, resulting in a 9:19.0 finish.

Although the teams' overall results were not especially pleasing to Machi, he maintains confidence as the crews meet UMass./Lowell and Massachusetts Maritime Academy on the Merrimack River this weekend. "I fully expect that the time we put in on the water this week will make a huge difference for [both the men's and women's squads]," he said.

Saturday did not quite live up to the team's expectations, but it gave us a preview of what we're capable of with a little more water time.

— Emily Loesche '05

Emily Loesche '05 echoed Machi's forecast. "Overall, Saturday did not quite live up to the team's expectations, but it gave us a preview of what we're capable of with a little more water time. We're certain that next weekend will be different, especially since we're facing Mass Maritime for the second time this season. We raced well against them before having only been on the water in Miami, so with the additional practice time under our belts, there's no reason we shouldn't dominate," she said.



Albert Bitici

Bryan Lodigiani '05 fields a ball during practice. The Panthers took two of three against Hamilton last weekend.

Baseball returns to action

By Ryan Reese
Sports Editor

More than two weeks ago, the men's baseball team played the last game of its Spring Break training trip in Florida. The team has been idle since. With game after game cancelled for various reasons, including inclement spring weather, the Panthers have practiced hard while hoping to maintain some sort of a flow throughout this already disjointed season. Sophomore catcher Andrew Pavoni said, "It's tough to have a long break like that. However, we didn't win as many games as we would have liked to in Florida. So, we have looked at this break as a new beginning and a great opportunity to work on areas of our game that needed improvement."

The Panthers proved that they have not taken this two-week hiatus as a vacation. This past weekend they traveled down to Hamilton for a three-game NESCAC series. The Panthers picked up impressive wins before falling in the series finale. On Friday, Hamilton held a 1-0 lead until the fifth inning. Pavoni sparked the Panther offense with a solo shot over the short porch in left field. The game was knotted at ones until the top of the seventh when Middlebury surged into the lead by scoring four runs during an intense two-out rally. Joe Ramoin '05 kicked off this late push with a two-run double. The Continentals would notch one more run before succumbing to the Panthers' impressive offensive display and falling 6-3. David Riester '05 tossed eight solid innings while earning the win.

Little did the Continentals know, but the Panthers had plenty more offensive power coming. In the first three innings of Saturday morning's game, Middlebury exploded for 11 runs. Jake Armstrong '04 set the tone for the day by sending a souvenir over the left field fence. Jocko DeCarolis '07 and Ramoin both knocked in runs in the first and second innings before things got really ugly for the Continentals. The third inning saw Jake Muhlfield '04 and Ryan Armstrong '06 jack two-run homers.

These two hitters have been pacing the Panther offensive force thus far. Armstrong commented, "We have solid hitters one through nine, and throughout the lineup, we have guys who can get it done. When you have that kind of offense confidence levels really improve." Muhlfield was not done. With a three run ding-dong in the fourth, he left no doubt that this game was over before it started. Ben Christensen '04 put in five innings of work, struck out four and picked up the "W."

The second scoop of the double dip saw another solid Middlebury start. Ryan Armstrong notched another long ball in the first inning to put the Panthers up by a count of 1-0. The game went back and forth from there. Hamilton came back in the second with runs of its own while the Panthers struck back in the third. Hamilton's scores in the third and fifth innings proved to be the difference in this well-fought battle. Ryan Armstorng and Dev Talvadkar '05 had two hits in the 5-2 loss while Tyler Bak '06 was addled with the loss.

When asked to comment on the weekend, Pavoni said, "It was nice to get two wins in a league series, and it was a real confidence booster to see how much we have improved over the break." Ryan Armstrong noted, "Our offense was surprisingly strong throughout the weekend. If we can keep up the solid plate performances, great pitching and cut back on errors in the field, I think we can go places."

With two of the best NESCAC teams looming large on the horizon, the Panthers have their work cut out for them. They will run into a tough Wesleyan team before facing Amherst. With a playoff spot hanging in the balance, these games will determine Middlebury's season. Ryan Armstrong said, "We are still in the playoff hunt, but we have been underachieving all season long." Pavoni added, "The team has so much potential, and we haven't really played at our best level yet. If we can put all the pieces together, I feel that we could challenge the top NESCAC schools." With contests at Wesleyan and home games against Skidmore and Trinity up next, the Panthers look to compete at their highest possible level of play. Hopefully, the weather, the bats and the gloves will behave and help Middlebury to experience their potential.

Men's lacrosse outduels Amherst

Continued from page 28

top of the box, and with Middlebury in transition, Dave Leach '05 found Mark Foster at 4:03 who beat a strong goalie near-post to put the finishing touches on the game. "Krieger played up to his top level of play," Head Coach Erin Quinn said. "When we play top teams that are not afraid to just go at us the way Amherst did, you see Krieger play his best. Some games are more difficult for him to shine because some teams are more content to just possess the ball and only take a handful of very high percentage shots."

In a day where the offense stalled on possession late in the game, with uncharacteristic turnovers and poor shots on net the defense anchored this win.

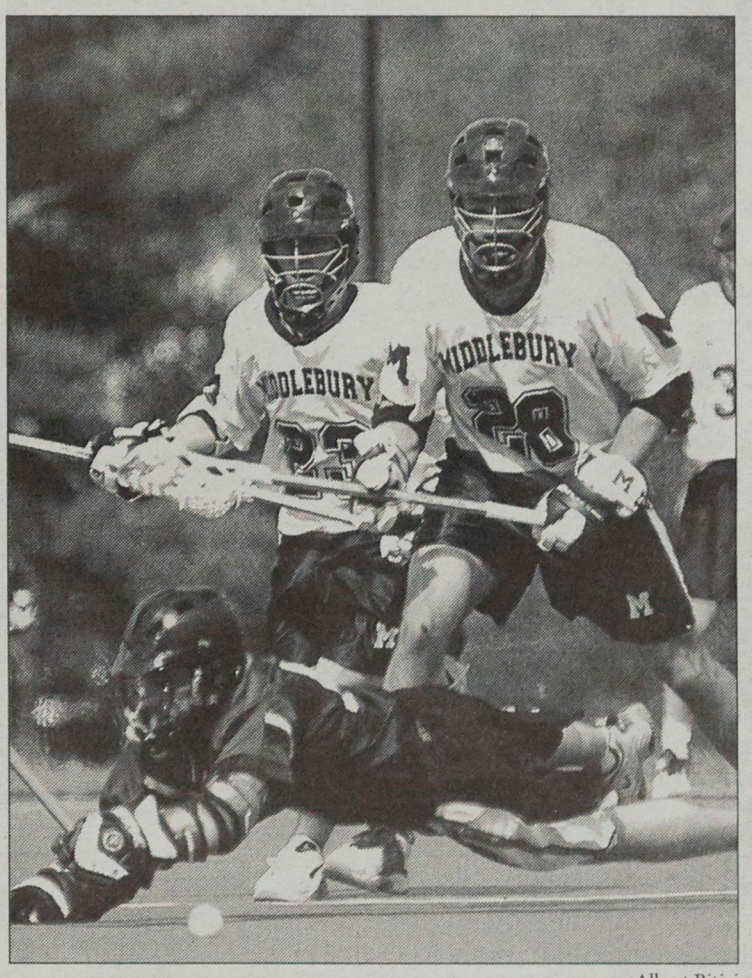
"All of our starting long sticks, John West '04, Ed Brown '05 and Will Rawson '05, as well as O'Connor and Brian Phinney at long stick midfield were outstanding today," Quinn added.

The Panthers needed their efforts alongside Krieger's performance as Middlebury found themselves in a tight game despite two quick goals from tri-captains Greg Bastis '04 and Charley Howe '04 in the opening minutes of the first quarter.

Middlebury looked strong in the second quarter with four unanswered goals from Mike Saraceni '04, who had two in the 11-minute span, and a goal each from Foster and Howe.

The last goal by Howe at 1:33 appeared to be a momentum builder after Mike Murray '05 cleared the ball in transition to Saraceni who found a wide-open Howe at the net, but Amherst opened the second half with two unanswered goals of their own to tie the game.

With a record of 8-0, Middlebury will put its unblemished season on the line when they take to the field against two top-20 opponents in Tufts University on Wednesday at home and in Brunswick, Maine against Bowdoin College on Saturday.



Albert Bitici

Greg Bastis '04 and Tom O'Connor '04 lay out an Amherst attackman on Saturday. Bastis picked up the ball to net the first goal of the game.

ANGRYPETER

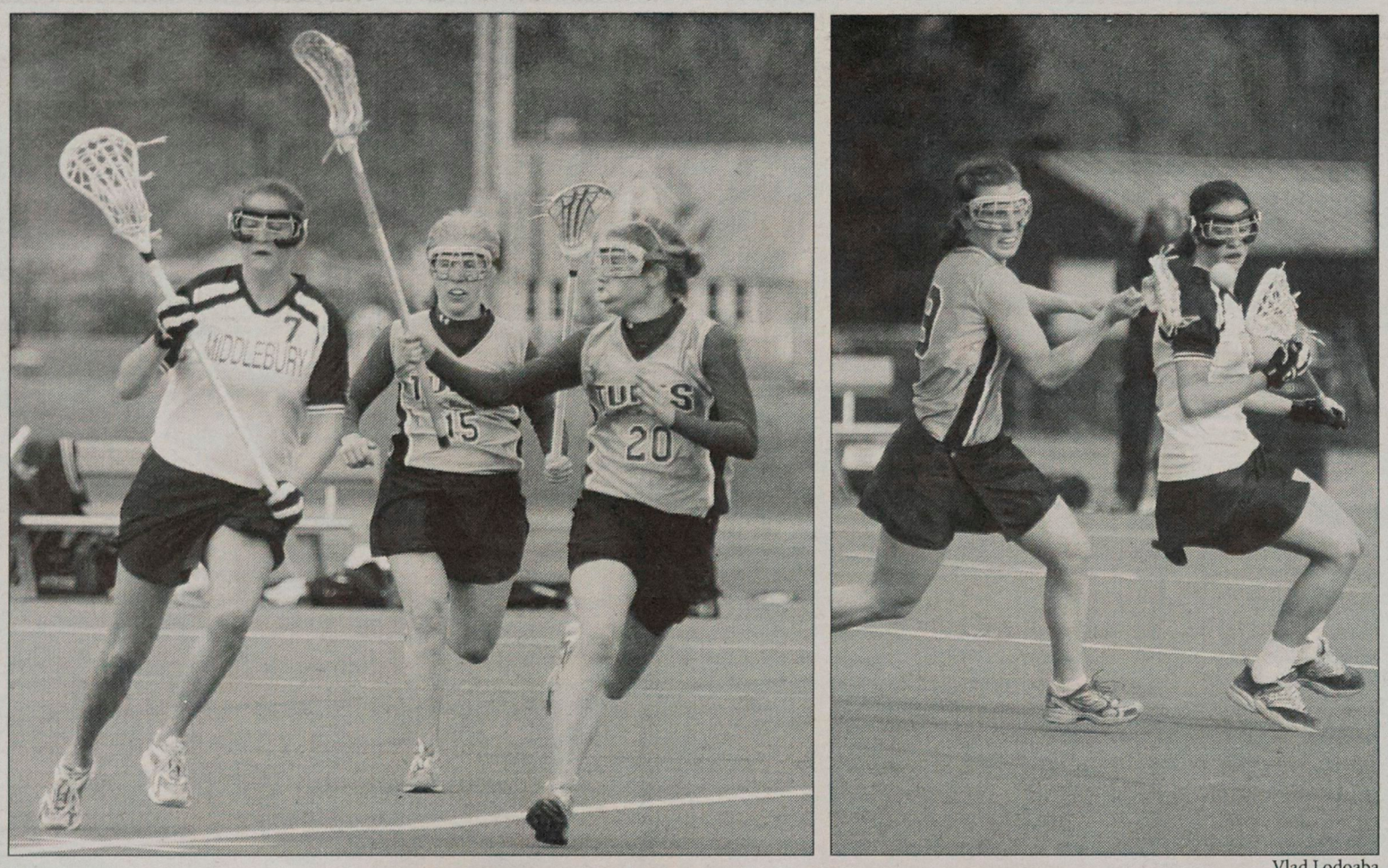
BY PETER YORDAN

Should Middlebury spend millions of dollars seeking to entice its students away from the library and out to the gym? Should Middlebury even have an athletic department? Most people who read this column probably just felt their blood pressure spike. A college without organized athletics seems unthinkable to many, but of course, the coveted place of sports in college life is a purely American convention. Certainly, the NCAA has no counterpart anywhere else in the world, where universities tend at most to dabble in a few recreational sports.

Yet Middlebury barely bats an eyelash at throwing $15 million here or $15 million there for a new pool, hockey rink or fitness center. What's more, we are no different than most of our peer schools.

A year ago, Dave Lindholm '05 wrote a column asking what place a football program had at a small college, echoing the concerns of opponents of big-time college sports. The resource-guzzling sport, he noted, hampers athletic departments and requires serious preferential admissions practices to keep its enormous roster full. The administration openly acknowledges this — indeed, Dean of Enrollment Planning Mike Schoenfeld told me straight up last fall that we couldn't field a football team without preferential admissions. The administration clearly puts a strong value on athletics. Some schools have gone the other way. Swarthmore College infamously terminated its football program several years ago, unable to justify having nearly 1 in 10 male students on the team. Middlebury shows no sign of heading toward anything that dramatic. Our college has far too much invested in its athletic program.

I don't want to single football out — it is just the biggest target in this debate about the fundamental place of sports at our liberal arts college. It is a crucial debate, one of the most important that our College has had to deal with lately, yet most students here are completely oblivious to it. I personally think sports provide a certain cohesion for the school — indeed, one far more powerful than the awkward commons system being foisted upon us. It is one of the things that provide American colleges with the sense of community that doesn't exist in their European counterparts, for example, where in my experience cigarette breaks are the major recreational activity. I wish the administration would try harder to get people out of the library and down to the gym. I think the result would be a healthier, happier, more unified college. It would break down the oft-talked-about division between athletes and non-athletes, and it would help justify the amount of money sunk into the gym. The administration has spent a lot of time focusing on reducing the 10 percent of marginally qualified student-athletes. Now it's time to focus on the the 90 percent of Midd-kids.



Vlad Lodoaba

Junior Caitlin McCormick, left, and sophomore Elizabeth Renehan display their superior athleticism this Thursday in a 14-5 trouncing of Tufts.

Women's lacrosse rocks NESCAC foes

By Jack Donaldson
Staff Writer

The women's lacrosse team continued its success this week, beating NESCAC foes Tufts University and Trinity College handily and increasing its record to 9-0 while fixed at the number one ranking in the country.

The Panthers took on the Jumbos at Kohn Field on Thursday, beating them 14-5, and then finished their Easter Weekend Saturday afternoon in Hartford, Conn., winning 13-7.

Women's Lacrosse

Wednesday, April 13

Middlebury	14
Tufts	5

Wednesday, April 13

Middlebury	13
Trinity	7

While neither team was a strong contender for a high seed in the playoffs, nor much of a threat to a title, the wins were still important and illustrate the positive strides this team is making on its march to the trophy.

On Thursday, playing in front of a substantial crowd on their home turf, the Panthers dominated for the duration of the game, unrelenting in their offensive attack and punishing defense.

Middlebury scored the first six goals of the competition, breaking out to a 6-0 run within the first 14:40.

By halftime, the Panthers were up 10-1, with more than five different players notching first half goals. Although Tufts made a brief run at the beginning of the second half, Middlebury's defense, as well as its goaltenders, senior Captain Sarah Grenert and Johanna Rosenfield '05, continued the phenomenal play they've exhibited since Spring Break and provided constant mid- and back-field pressure to force numerous turnovers.

Middlebury's defense is one of its strongest attributes, allowing an average of five goals a game, which, with senior Nuala O'Donohoe and sophomore Elizabeth Renehan combining to average more than that themselves, has given the Panthers a formidable advantage. The defense has been great both in Middlebury's trademark zone, as well as in a new-look man-to-man.

"Defensively, [we are] very sound and comfortable," noted Captain Becca Brakeley '04, who added that the energy and fitness displayed by the Panthers has provided great midfield pressure before opposing teams get a chance to see the goal. "[Even] if teams do make it down to goal," Brakeley said, "our settled defense has also been impressive."

This is not to outshadow the lightning quick offense that has not been contained yet this year.

At Trinity, the Panthers exhibited their insatiable appetite for scoring by taking a 3-0 lead in the first 1:24.

They never looked back, taking a 9-3 lead by the end of the first stanza and notching four more goals in the second.

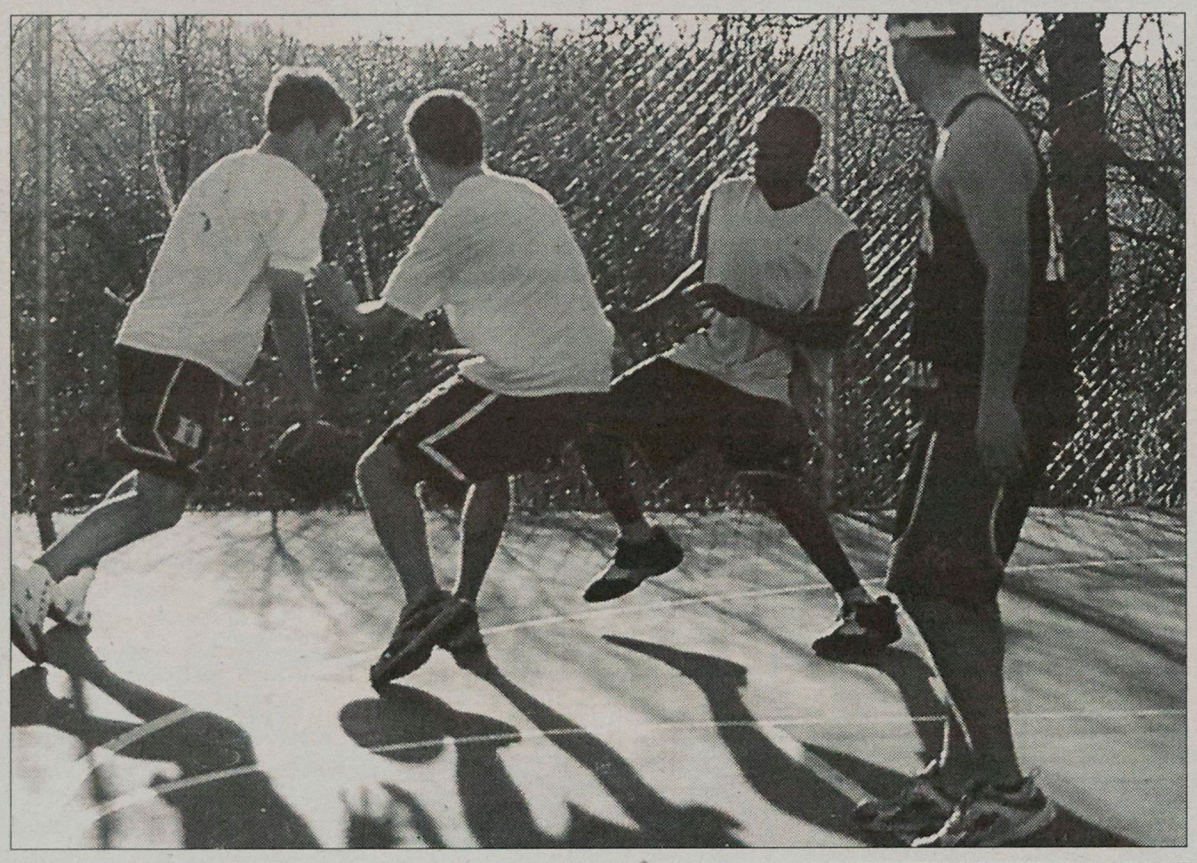
O'Donohoe continued her awe-inspiring season with a game high six points, and sophomores Schuyler Winstead and Renehan had two goals apiece as well.

While the women on the Middlebury squad have been characteristically humble, this season's performances, both individual and as a team, have been truly remarkable.

So good at both ends of the field, cruelly rejecting the most worthy of attempts from the opposition while flooding their net with wonderfully executed offensive plays, the team has mastered the full spectrum of lacrosse like few ever have before them.

Like a champion thoroughbred or prizefighter, the women's lacrosse team has coated itself in athletic perfection, its blinding glare capturing sport in its most brilliant hue.

TWO-ON-TWO



Finally able to play outside, Middlebury students take to the basketball courts behind Ross to play some pick-up ball. As the semester winds to a close, scenes like these will become more common as students take a break from work to enjoy the long-awaited spring.

Photo by Albert Bitici

Panthers push forward

Women look to Jeffs despite weekend woes

By Peter Yordan
Senior Staff Writer

The Middlebury women's tennis team looks to write a new chapter in its storybook season this weekend as it heads down to Massachusetts for the NESCAC tournament. Despite a hard-luck loss to rival Amherst last Sunday, the Panthers, for the first time in years, can head toward the postseason with optimism that they can challenge for the league title.

"I'm just excited to see how much talent we have on the team this year," said senior Kristin Baker. "It was pretty amazing to see how far the women's tennis team has come."

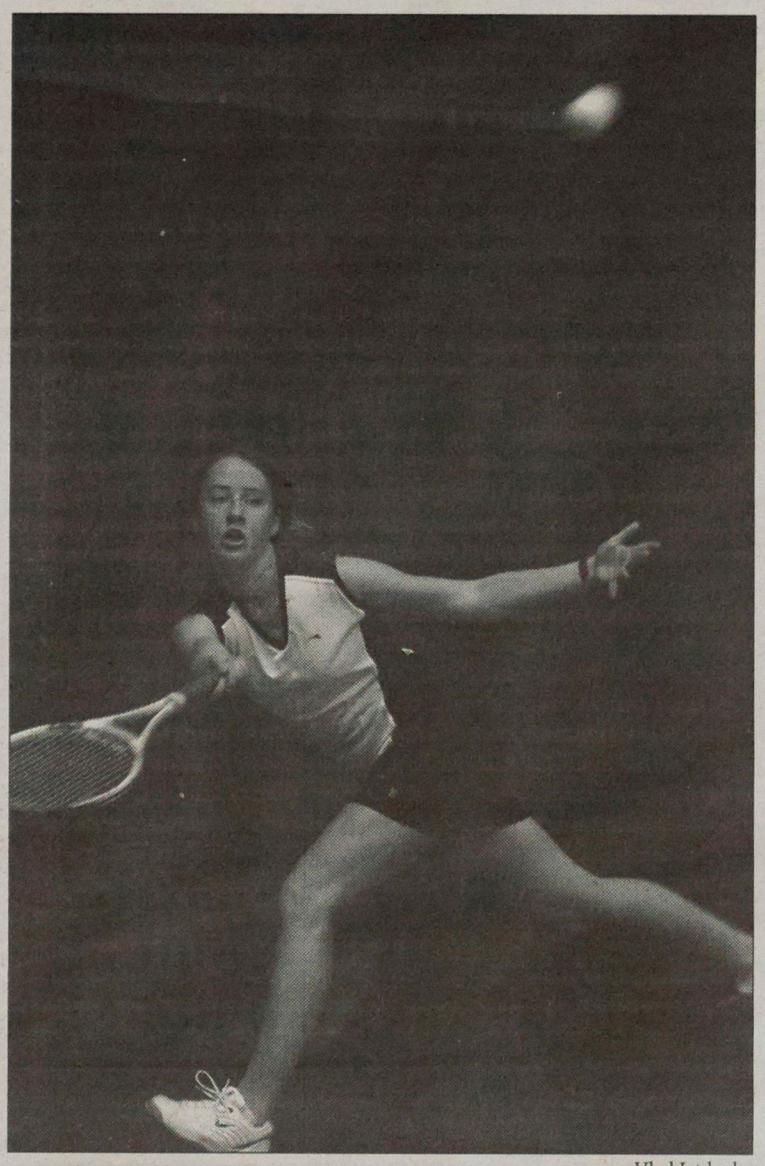
Middlebury started its final regular season weekend with a convincing 8-1 victory over Connecticut College, despite missing team co-captain Sandy Spring '04.5. Having seen the Conn College players the week before in their home invitational, the Panthers knew what to expect, and they calmly did their job.

The next day they faced a far sterner opponent in Amherst College, a team that has always shut down the Panthers in years past. Once again, the squad was missing the injured Spring, leaving a gap in their seeds and uneven match-ups for the bottom half of the draw. "Having her injured was tough for the team," said Baker.

Even with the odds stacked against them, the squad showed that this is a new Panther team that is able to compete with anyone. In a series of heartbreaking three-set matches, Middlebury lost 5-4 to their well pedigreed opponents, despite being up a set in nearly every spot. "I thought everyone played their hearts out," said Baker. "Before this year I don't think we had ever won a singles match against them." Baker and Lauren Ready '05 both won playing up a spot in the seeding, and in the other day's highlight, the doubles teams of Jena Siegel '04/Amy Roche '07 and Baker/Claire Smyser '07 each won close matches.

Lastly, on Tuesday, the team drove up Route 7 to play friendly rivals UVM for the final time. The Division-I school is ending its women's tennis program after this year, and the Panthers forced the Catamounts to leave on something of a sour note, handing the dying squad a 9-0 defeat in their final home match.

Next up for Middlebury is the NESCAC tournament in Amherst. The team, carrying a gaudy 15-2 record, including a big 6-3 win over Williams, will look to progress farther than they ever have into the postseason. "Typically in individual tournaments we don't do as well as when we play as a team in dual meets," said Baker. Still, guided by the veteran leadership of co-captains Siegel and Spring, the Panthers hope to get at least to the final rounds matches on Sunday and then make a strong showing in the NCAA tournament. Boosted by a strong team spirit, the group hopes to build on its record breaking regular season. "We're really good about supporting ourselves," said Baker. "You feed off the energy when everybody is around you." Having proven themselves this year against the top programs in NESCAC, the Panthers are ready to take their tennis program to the next level.



Vlad Lodoaba

Emily Holick '07 and the rest of the Panthers strive to leave their mark in NESCAC post-season play this year.

Softball alone atop NESCAC

Continued from page 28

their home debut as they squared off against conference rival Wesleyan. The Cardinals came in with a respectable 8-9 record, but were no match for the Panthers.

The team was excited to get the opportunity to play at home.

"It was awesome. It was a great feeling to be out there actually getting out on our home field and having many of our friends and family there watching. It was a beautiful day," said Williams.

Starting off the weekend, Middlebury sent staff ace Megan McCarthy '05 to the hill. She cruised through the game, throwing her team-leading fifth complete game shut out. McCarthy allowed only three runners the whole game. On the offensive end, the Panthers got their only three runs off of Wesleyan's Molly Gaebe in the second inning. George stroked a two-run single to right center field, scoring Williams from second and Hurd from first. George later scored on a sacrifice fly to center field by Lauren Battaglia '06.

We felt pretty confident. We were playing well and we knew that we could get the job done.

— Jennifer Williams '07

McCarthy started the second game and gave up two hits, but was relieved by Bowe at the start of the second inning. George doubled in Hurd on an errant throw in the second inning, and then Christina Freyer '04 knocked home George with a single.

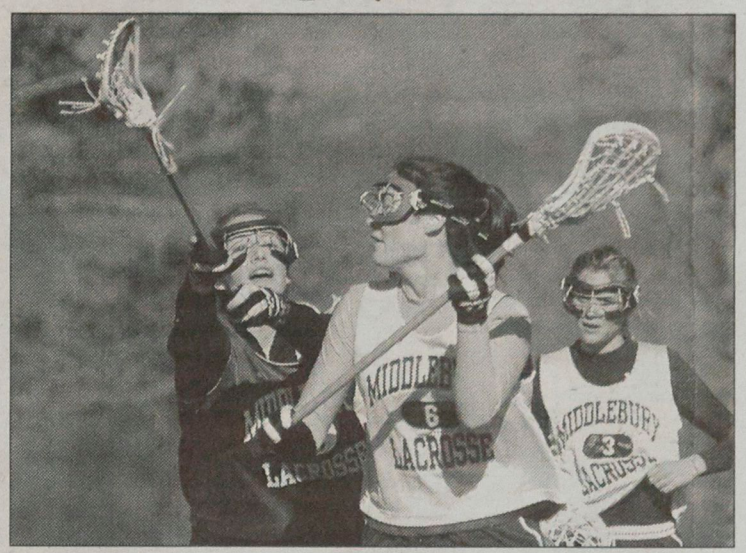
Middlebury struck again in the sixth when first baseman Lauren Guza '05 knocked in two runs with a triple to deep right center field. Wesleyan tried to crawl back as Vicki Russo and Stacie Szmonko each drove in a run in the top of the seventh, but couldn't get any more runs off of Bowe, who evened her record to 3-3.

The Panthers will look to further improve their 11-5 record this Thursday when they play a doubleheader at home versus Castleton State.

SPORTSBRIEFS

BY DAVID FREEDMAN, SPORTS EDITOR

O'Donohoe player of the week



Albert Bitici

Senior tri-captain Nuala O'Donohoe repeated her 12-point performance two weeks ago with another nine goals and three assists this past week. For her efforts, the midfielder out of Needham, Mass., was named NESCAC player of the week for women's lacrosse, winning back-to-back honors for the first time in her career. After the Panthers lost their top four scorers from the national championship runner-up campaign a year ago, O'Donohoe has stepped up her scoring to keep Middlebury atop the Division III polls as the best team in the nation. Her 32 goals and 41 points on the season, which make her the team's leading scorer, keeps the senior firmly entrenched among the top-20 goal scorers in the country. O'Donohoe shared this week's honors with Allison Aldrich, a native of Cornwall, Vt., who had an outstanding week in uniform for Amherst College.

Softball to teach the basics

The Middlebury softball coaching staff and players extended an invitation to 10-16 year olds to attend its instructional clinic on Sunday, April 25 from 2-4 p.m. The youth clinic will take place at Orwell Fields, located on Route 22A at the Orwell four corners. The free instructional afternoon will cover the basics of the game — from hitting and pitching to fielding and base-running. "This clinic is an outreach to the youth softball community in Addison County," Head Coach Diane Boettcher said. "We've coordinated it all with a lot of middle school club teams in the area, so it should be a good turnout." Boettcher can be reached at 443-5410 for more information.

Cooper a "Face in the Crowd"

Albert Bitici

After four briefs and an extended feature on Middlebury hockey star Kevin Cooper '04, a nationally renowned publication — *Sports Illustrated* — finally came to the realization that the sports section and the College community knew weeks ago — the senior is unbelievably good at hockey. Perhaps *SI* columnist Rick Reilly was in the crowd or maybe an alumnus made a few calls, but nevertheless, Cooper was featured in the "Faces in the Crowd" section of the April 12 edition of the magazine recognizing him for his overtime heroics in the NCAA championship for Division-III hockey. Now that the hockey season has come to a triumphant end, and Cooper and the rest of the Panthers' squad are able to ride off into the sunset, I can confidently say that this is the last brief I will ever have to write about such a talented young man. My only question for the forward from Mississauga, Ontario — which I can now spell on command — is why couldn't he break triple digits for career goals? Then maybe, I'd get a shot to write just one more brief.

BASEBALL | BOYS OF SUMMER TAKE TWO OF THREE FROM HAMILTON | 29

WOMEN'S LACROSSE | REMAIN UNBEATEN AGAINST TUFTS AND TRINITY | 30

GAMES TO WATCH

WOMEN'S LACROSSE VS. BOWDOIN
APR. 17 | 11 AM | TURF

TRACK AND FIELD HOME MEET
APR. 17 | 11 AM | TRACK

campus sports

THURSDAY, APRIL 15, 2004

Men's tennis surging to NESCACs

By Sean Breen
Staff Writer

In the words of Yogi Berra, it was like déjà vu all over again. This past week, Middlebury's men's tennis team took on #2 ranked Williams College in a duel of the two Eastern powerhouses. Williams has historically dominated the NESCAC division, but over the past four years Coach Dave Schwarz has led the Panthers to the forefront. Middlebury beat Williams last spring 6-1 and repeated the feat this year, winning 6-1 again. The Panthers won the doubles point and carried the momentum through to win five of the six singles matches.

"We came out fired up and ready to play," commented co-captain Alex Meditz '05. "The effort was helped by the large number of fans present, which made it seem like a home match."

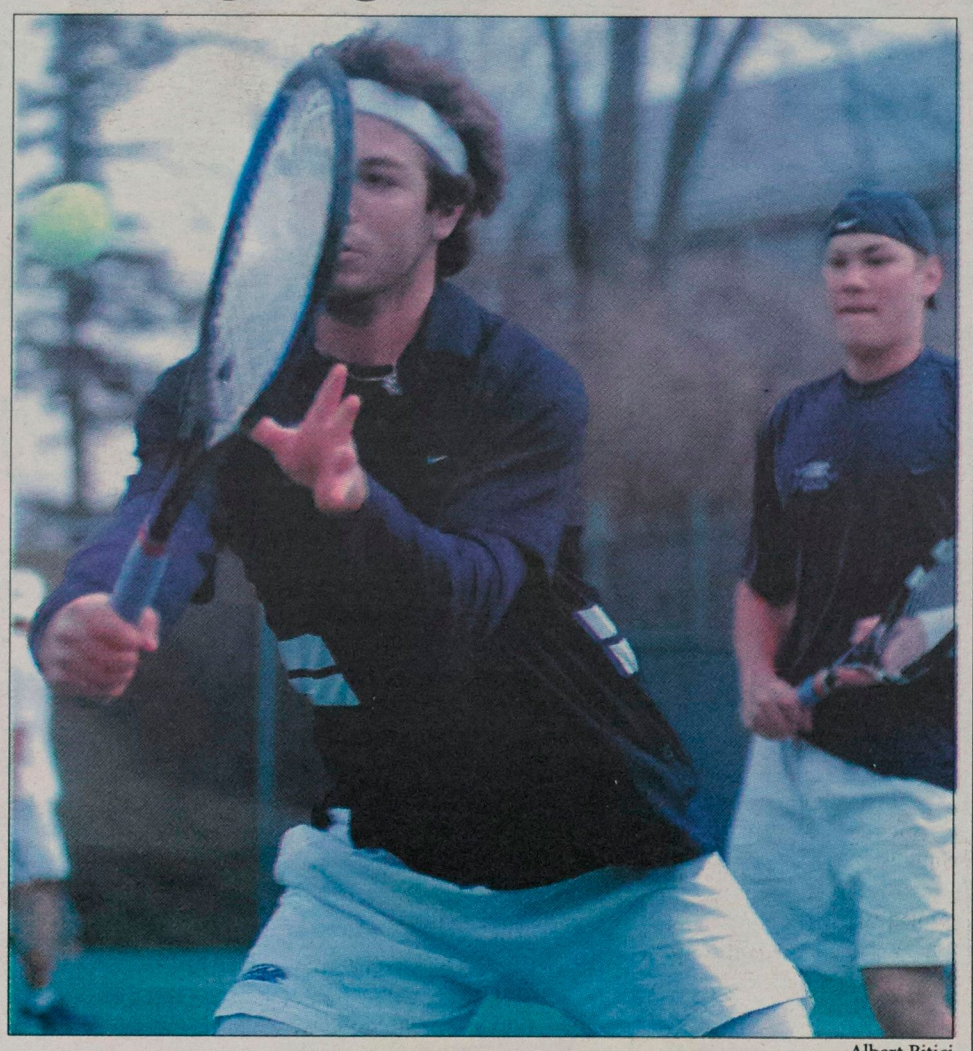
Nate Edmunds '06, playing in the #1 spot on the ladder, dominated his counterpart Andrew Murray, currently 19th in the country, to win in straight sets, 6-2, 6-3. Edmunds, considered the team's most consistent player, is currently ranked 15th in the country by college tennisonline.com. Brian Waldron '06, who has been exchanging the #1 spot with Edmunds, is currently ranked 10th in the nation, but has been struggling this spring, losing to Williams' Daniel Murray, an unranked player, in straight sets 6-4, 6-2. Still, many consider Waldron the team's most talented player, and if the Panthers can continue to win while he finds his footing Middlebury will be in terrific shape heading into the NESCAC and NCAA tournaments.

In an epic battle, Ari Beilin '06, ranked 33rd in the nation, managed to defeated Jeff Kivitz, 6-5, 6-7, 6-3. The second set went through four tiebreakers before Kivitz pulled out the victory, only to lose the final set and the match. Justin Ingoglia '05, playing the #4 spot, and Alex Scott '07, in the #6 spot, also won in straight sets. The team's other promising rookie, George Mayer '07, lost his first set but responded by winning the next two to take the match, 4-6, 6-3, 10-8. The final set came down to pure determination and, after what seemed like a marathon, Mayer managed to seal the victory.

Using the momentum gained from the win over Williams, Middlebury swamped another strong team, Bowdoin, 5-2, to improve to 11-3 overall this spring and remain undefeated in the NESCAC conference. Waldron, playing in the #1 spot this time, fell to Mac Burke 6-2, 6-2. Edmunds continued his strong play, winning in straight sets over Pat Keneally, 6-1, 6-4. Beilin lost in a touch match to John Carolan 6-5, 6-2. Ingoglia, who has learned to love long, epic matches, pulled out another win after dropping the first set, 5-7, 6-4, 7-6. Mayer was forced to win a tough opening set, nearly losing it to Sam Bitetti, but then responded and dominated the second set to win 7-6, 6-2. Scott won easily in the #6 spot over Barret Lawson, dropping only one game, 6-1, 6-0. Middlebury also swept the doubles matches. Mayer and Ingoglia paired up to win 9-7 while Beilin and Scott came through their duel 8-3. Edmunds and Waldron pulled up the rear with an impressive 8-3 victory in their match.

The Panthers now prepare for this weeks' match against Skidmore on Thursday, before they take on Amherst and Union Saturday. This week, with all matches at home, should be seen as a warm-up for next week's NESCAC Tournament beginning on Friday, April 23. The Panthers should feel confident with this year's championship event held at Williams, a setting where they have had great success.

"I think we know where we are and where we need to be," explained Meditz, "The next couple of weeks will be about continuing to improve so that we can get to where we want to be and peak during the NCAA tournament."



Albert Bitici

The Middlebury men's tennis team continued its fine form with a 8-1 win over rival Williams.

Softball, 9-1, tops league

By Daniel Inadomi
Staff Writer

The Middlebury softball team is red hot. For the first time this season, the Panthers stand alone in first place of the NESCAC West, which includes Hamilton, Wesleyan, Williams and Amherst. The Panthers are 9-1 in their last 10 games and are riding a four-game winning streak after sweeping two double headers last week.

Going into last week's games Jennifer Williams '07 noted that team morale was high. "We felt pretty confident. We were playing well, and we knew that we could get the job done against Green Mountain and Wesleyan," she said.

Last Tuesday the Panthers easily handled Green Mountain College in both games, outscoring them 14-2 on the series. The Panthers took advantage of a defense that committed five errors on the day. In the first game, shortstop Kathryn Hurd '06 had one hit and drove in three of the team's seven runs. Lauren Bowe '04 dominated the Eagle offense, throwing her first complete game shutout of the year. Bowe allowed only four hits and a walk over seven innings to improve her record to 2-3.

After scoring one run in the first inning of the second game, the Panthers exploded with a six-run sixth. Michaela George '04 went 2-3 with a walk and knocked in four runs en route to a 7-2 victory. First-year hurler Jen Williams threw her second complete game of the year, surrendering two runs, one earned, on seven hits.

Said Williams of her teammates, "We've come together as a group well. We want every game and we have the skills to execute and get it done. We have such a solid defense and I feel confident that they will make the plays every time I'm pitching."

On Saturday, the Panthers finally made

See Softball, page 31

Krieger holds firm for 8-0 Lax

By David Freedman
Sports Editor

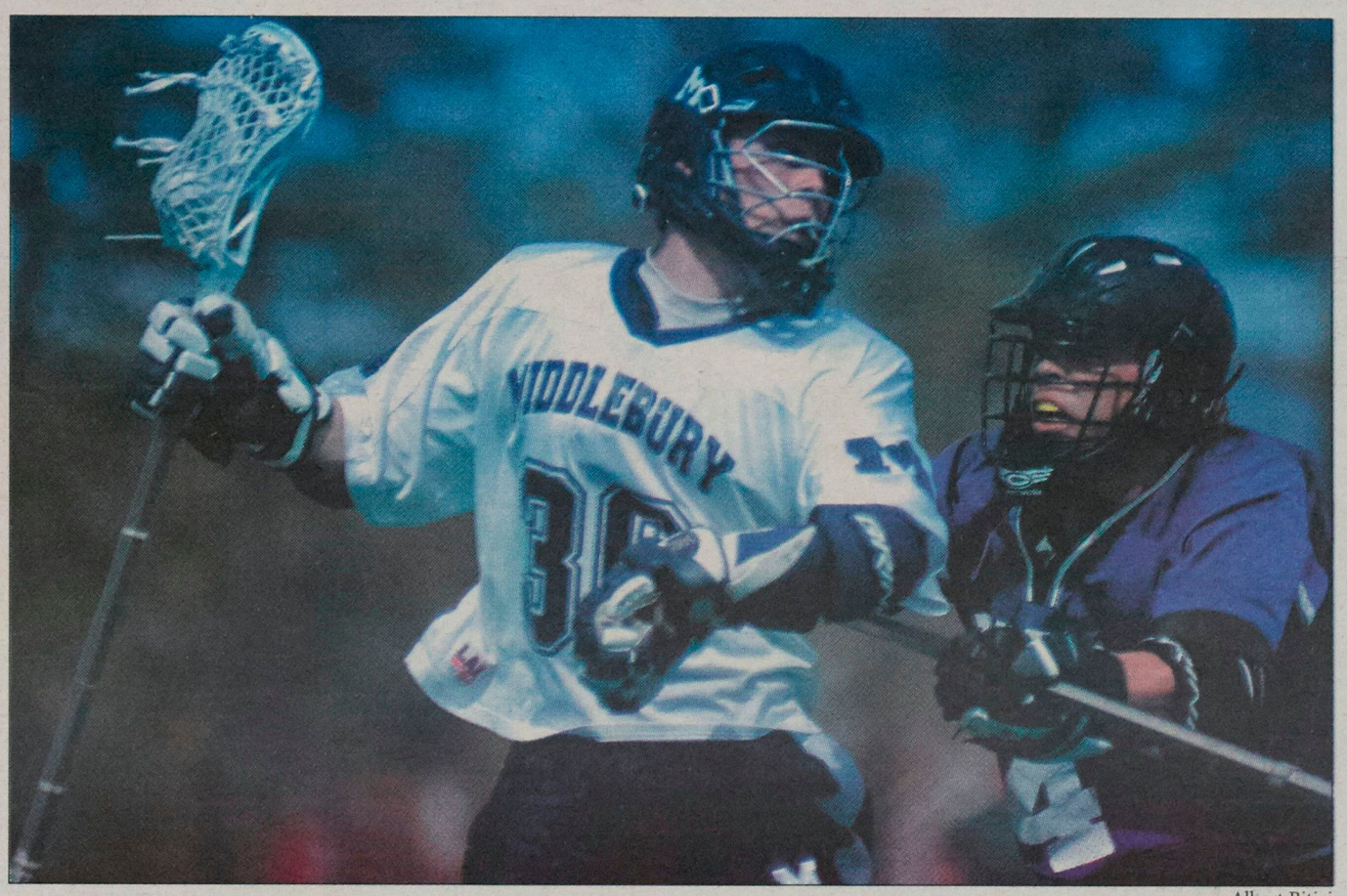
Senior tri-captain Eric Krieger was livid on Saturday afternoon. After being pushed from behind in the third quarter while going after a ground ball at the side of his net, there were no flags and no whistles. The goalie from Princeton, N.J., was clearly not pleased.

The offense from Amherst College bared the brunt of Krieger's newfound intensity, as he held off shot after shot in man-down situations late in the third and fourth quarter to allow Middlebury to edge the Lord Jeffs 7-6 on Peter Kohn Turf Field.

With the game tied at 6-6 and three minutes to go in the third, the Panthers' defense played strong lacrosse to shut down a surging Amherst attack.

Tom O'Connor '04 created a huge play with a quick stick check on an Amherst midfielder at the

See Men's Lacrosse, page 29



Albert Bitici

Bob Wannop '04 takes care of the ball under pressure from an Amherst player during Middlebury's hard fought 7-6 win.